

Get united with the States. From Israel, just dial: 177-100-2727 AT&T

THE JERUSALEM POST

JORDAN 3 Days \$ 190 EGYPT 4 Days \$ 89 MAZADA TOURS

VOLUME LXIII, NUMBER 19214

Friday, March 1, 1996 • ADAR 10, 5756 • SHAWAL 11, 1416

NIS 6.00 (EILAT NIS 5.10)

Sneh: Without Rabin we must be more cautious

DOUGLAS DAVIS LONDON

ISRAEL without Yitzhak Rabin is less capable of making substantive concessions for peace than it was when he was prime minister.

"Israel without Rabin lacks the moral authority to make more concessions than Israel with Rabin," he said.

"Israel without Rabin must be more cautious. Without the leadership of Rabin, Israel can afford only smaller concessions than in the past because Rabin had a special authority and he had the ability to help Israelis to take risks.

"If we adhere to his legacy, we do not do so as a favor, because if we ignore his legacy, we may compromise the security of Israel," he said.

He said Prime Minister Shimon Peres stood in the front rank of world leaders, "but Rabin's ability to convince Israelis to take the path of peace was unique. It is very difficult to fill the vacuum his loss has created."

Sneh, on a one-day visit to London, made the comments in his keynote address to an international conference on the subject "Israel after Rabin," sponsored by the Britain Israel Public Affairs Center (BIPAC) and King's College, London University.

He predicted "very tough negotiations with Syria over a long time" and stressed that Israel must "insist on our security needs."

Israel, he said, must not allow its deterrent capacity to be eroded, it must retain strategic supremacy and its nuclear ambiguity.

At the same time, he said, Israel should "try everything possible to prepare ourselves and mobilize others to block the very dangerous efforts by Iraq and Iran to acquire unconventional weapons."

Sneh listed his fundamental requirements in final status negotiations with the Palestinians as the unity of Jerusalem; demilitarization of the West Bank and Gaza Strip; and an Israeli defense line based on the Jordan River.

"I consider these to be red lines," Sneh added. "All the rest is open to negotiations. I hope our party's platform in the forthcoming elections will be along these lines."

IDF officer wins pre-Eurovision contest

LIAT COLLINS

AND the winner is ... Galit Bell and her song "Shalom Olam."

Bell, an IDF officer, was last night chosen out of 12 contestants to represent Israel in the Eurovision Song Contest scheduled to be held May 18 in Oslo.

This year's preliminary contest had more than the usual number of unknowns aiming for their 3 minutes fame on television screens throughout Europe.

The competition which in the past gave us Rita's shoulder, Yardenia Arazi in red wellington boots, and Zvika Pik in Bermuda shorts, this year presented the public with a show based on sexual innuendo of the most basic "what goes up, must come down" kind.

Emcees Tal Mann and Ron Levant had were so full of zippy, young energy the viewers began (Continued on Page 2)

North American Newsstand Prices for J.P. Friday Edition NY, N.J.: \$3.00 Canada: CDN \$5.00 +TAX Elsewhere: \$4.00

Table with columns: SHABBAT, BEGINS, ENDS. Rows: Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Haifa, Beer Sheva, Eilat.



Hamas offers Israel cease-fire

Group requests prisoner release and end to 'aggression against Palestinians'

JON IMMANUEL

HAMAS and its armed wing Izzadin Kassam last night offered Israel a cease-fire in return for the release of its prisoners, a halt to "organized terrorism against Hamas and its Kassam brigades ... and an end to aggression against Palestinian civilians."

Officials in the Prime Minister's Office refused to comment on the offer.

The five-point proposal also contained a threat that if Israel did

not respond by 7 p.m. a week from today, "Kassam brigades will be free to take any military action against anyone in the Jewish state ... We warn the Zionist entity and the General Security Service against committing terrorist acts."

are not new.

But it is notable for being signed by both Hamas and Izzadin Kassam, indicating that they have reached agreement on goals and strategy.

Hamas described its offer as "a golden opportunity for the Israeli government to rid civilians from both sides of the fear of war and bloody conflict."

Nabil Abu Rudeineh, a senior adviser to Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat described the leaflet as "a very important political statement. It offers the Israeli government a truce, and I am sure our dialogue with them in Cairo helped."

"This does not come out of nothing," Abu Rudeineh said. "It is the result of the carrot and the stick. We cornered them."

He said the truce could have been offered earlier, but "it was sabotaged when somebody killed Yihye Ayyash," the bomb-maker considered responsible for several suicide bombings.

Some statements in the leaflet contradict previous ones in other leaflets.

Izzadin Kassam, the statement said, had not meant to "embarrass the Palestinian Authority in its last operations and only wanted to avenge the blood of 'The Engineer.'"

In a statement three days earlier, distributed by the PA, it denied taking "direct or indirect responsibility" for Sunday's attacks.

Arafat himself returned from Cairo last night, where he met with senior Moslem Brotherhood leaders in an effort to influence Hamas.

Hamas claims responsibility for attacks, Page 3



David Levy holds the fax he just received from the Likud at last night's press conference. To his right is MK David Magen.

Levy considers Likud proposal

SARAH HONIG

DAVID Levy promised to "study and consider" a new offer from the Likud last night, after he was about to close the door on any agreement.

This in effect marks the beginning of formal talks on creating a three-way bloc with the Likud, Tsomet, and Levy's new Geshet Party.

The entire effort was revived at the last minute by a Tsomet concession which made it possible for Likud chairman Binyamin Netanyahu to make a new proposal to Levy.

Levy had already summoned a press conference to denounce the Likud and the way it had handled the entire episode. He had launched his acerbic attack when a fax from MK Ariel Sharon arrived with the new offer and changed the picture.

The sticking point throughout the day was Levy's demand to get precisely what Tsomet had in its agreement with Likud. That would have meant seven safe slots for Levy's people on the list of

Knesset candidates.

Netanyahu could not afford to give away so many of the Likud's own slots and had asked that Tsomet make do with just six. But Tsomet had refused until Levy was about to begin his angry press conference.

Then Tsomet flinched and Netanyahu's brinkmanship paid off. Tsomet agreed to move its seventh candidate from the 38th to the 42nd slot. The 41st slot would go to Levy's seventh candidate.

After first acrimoniously hitting out at the Likud, Levy said he would now "study and consider the offer. The Geshet Party forums will have to decide upon it in the proper manner. Only now will the substantive negotiations actually begin."

Levy opened his address to the press by claiming that "there have been no real negotiations up to now, because no formal offer has come to us. A trusted friend, Ariel Sharon, talked to me about the (Continued on Page 2)

With friends like Levy, who needs enemies

COMMENT SARAH HONIG

LEKUD chairman Binyamin Netanyahu must have been asking himself yesterday if David Levy is the sort of partner he could ever work with. Levy exuded hostility in his references to the Likud at his press conference last night, and he spewed venom at Netanyahu, without so much as even mentioning his name.

If Levy's strange performance is anything to go by, he hasn't changed a bit. He was full of pomp and pathos, self-indignation and resentment. He sounded like someone who, more than anything, wants to do Netanyahu in, rather than someone who wants to help him in his uphill campaign to be elected prime minister.

Levy gave the appearance of

being dragged by his head against his heart. He knows that on his own, he will get very few MKs into the Knesset and that the Likud offers him a way to double his Knesset representation. But what Levy fervently wants is to hurt Netanyahu and prevent him from becoming prime minister by keeping his spoiler candidacy afloat.

Levy summoned the press to lash out at his favorite object of hate - Netanyahu. He arrived all fired up and ready to announce that no deal with the Likud was ever in the works, and that at any rate the deal-that-wasn't had fallen through.

Tsomet, however, had spoiled his plans and at the very last second made it possible for

reached him and no negotiations were under way. Now that the offer had come, he would deign to talk.

Levy had mounted a rousing defense of his prestige. Having to save face, he refused to admit that he finds the new offer acceptable; all that he would allow is that there is something to consider. He denied that his party is merging into the Likud and maintained that his actions would be determined by what is best to further the week-old Geshet credo.

At the outset, however, he described the Likud as down and out, intimating that he is the one who is altruistically out to rescue it. He expressed "utter contempt for this despicable attempt to make us look like petty hagglers."

If yesterday showed anything, it is that his central concern remains his "honor."

There was not a word about the national camp, not a word about the state of the nation, or about his attitude toward the Labor coalition's policies. Levy did not appear in the least committed to a change in government. Even if the Likud strikes a deal with him, the question remains how far Levy would really go to help Netanyahu and the Likud. He might sulk just as he did in 1992.

The one auspicious note was that Levy promised that if the unnamed Netanyahu changes his ways and a satisfactory agreement is reached and they are forced to work together, he "will even shake his hand."

Court to Treasury: Increase payments to Nazi victims

EVELYN GORDON

THE High Court of Justice yesterday strongly recommended that the Treasury increase its payments to Nazi victims, but the victims said the decision did not go far enough.

"I'm not at all pleased," said Moshe Weiss, 70, a survivor of Auschwitz who came to Israel in 1947. "We thought the judges would decide once and for all."

Instead, the justices ordered the Treasury to "reconsider" its position "in light of the guidelines in this ruling."

"We think [the reconsideration] will take too long," explained Chava Roth, a former Yad Vashem employee who has been involved with the petition. "This is a long process, and there are elections in the middle ... I very much fear that many of the survivors won't live long enough to enjoy the benefits."

Finance Minister Avraham Shohat's response did not quiet these fears.

Shohat promised to "honor the court's decision and work to implement it," but only "after [the Treasury] has studied the implications of the decision in depth."

Weiss also complained that while the court said the payments should be increased, it did not specify by how much.

"[Shohat] will throw us all perhaps another NIS 200 [a month]," he said angrily, noting that his current payment is about NIS 560 a month, compared with about NIS 1,600 for someone paid directly by Germany.

The petition, by MK Avraham Hershon (Likud) and four survivors, had asked the court to cor-

rect the disparity between the Treasury's payments and what survivors who are paid by Germany directly receive.

The discrepancy resulted from the 1952 reparations agreement with Germany, in which Israel received a lump sum in exchange for a promise that no survivors living in Israel as of October 31, 1953 would sue Germany for compensation.

Survivors who arrived after that date could sue Germany directly, however, and those who did so often received three times as much as those paid by the Treasury.

The Treasury had argued that the law did not permit it to raise

its payments to survivors - an argument which the court rejected, noting that the law does not limit the payments in any way except to say that increases require approval by the Knesset Finance Committee.

However, Shohat also said Nazi victims get the same payments as terror victims and IDF wounded, and he would not raise the amount any further even if he could.

"Since its founding, Israel has been faced with many challenges in various fields, and it provides services and assistance for its citizens and residents according to its financial ability," he wrote in his response to the court.

"According to the petitioners' request, even not retroactively, would place an extremely great (Continued on Page 2)

Centurion Insurance Agencies Ltd. When only the best will do! Fully trained English Speaking Staff 3 Be'eri Street, Jerusalem 02-247333-4

THE HARD ROCK EXPERIENCE IN ISRAEL Hard Rock CAFE DON'T MISS IT!!! Dizengoff Center, 46 Dizengoff St., Tel Aviv, Tel. 03-5251336

Why have 100's invested millions in STOCKMASTER? STOCKMASTER accounts were up ANOTHER +13.6% in January 1996. 100's of our clients have doubled their money since 1992. "Legendary Superinvestor" (Fortune Magazine, 1996) Top 1% of all money managers. If you too have \$50,000 and would like to double it most effectively again, call: 09-570881 or 02-334799. OLD CITY FINANCE LTD. Corex Building, Minkat Street, P.O.Box 12465, Herzlia Pituach 46733.

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM LECTURES to be delivered by PROFESSOR RUTH LAPIDOTH The Bessie & Michael Greenblatt, Q.C. Professor of International Law on "JERUSALEM AND THE PEACE PROCESS" Saturday, March 2, 1996, 11:00 a.m. at the King David Hotel Refreshments courtesy of the King David Hotel. Admission free.

2 CHOICES FOR THE 21st Century. 2-storey, US-style town houses in GIVAT SHARETT one of Israel's most popular communities. 6-10 grand rooms, 160-230 sq.m., + garden. Top standards, surprisingly affordable. Unique, "no cars" village atmosphere. Offered exclusively by TIVUCH SHELLY Shelly Levine 02-258365, 351925. 16 Superb Cottages in MA'ALEH ADUMIM's best new area. 170 sq.m. + basement, spacious garden + balcony patios of up to 40 sq.m.! Kesem HaMidbar Desert Charm Courts. Jerusalem stone exteriors 10 minutes from Jerusalem. Building by BONEI GALROM Ltd. SALES BY TIVUCH SHELLY Who could ask for more?

FBI assists in terror probe

HILLEL KUTTLER
WASHINGTON

THE Justice Department confirmed yesterday that FBI agents and specialists have been dispatched to Israel to assist in the investigation of the bus bombing and auto deaths earlier this week.

The team was sent "to assist the Israeli authorities. We have, since there were two Americans killed [in the Jerusalem bus blast], jurisdiction but of course we have to pay homage to the host country," said a Department spokesman, John Russell.

The US has already sent a team from the Federal Bureau of Investigations "that is either on the way or has left but has not yet arrived" in Israel, Russell said.

He said they will investigate the circumstances of the bombing that killed Matthew Eisenfeld and Sarah Duker, and of the killing of Ahmed Abdul-Hamid Hamideh after his rental car plowed into Jerusalem pedestrians and killed one Israeli, Hamideh, who

lived in Los Angeles, was shot to death by bystanders after the collision.

The FBI team likely includes supervisory agents, crime scene technicians and bomb experts, a Justice Department source said.

The US has also sent its Athens embassy's legal attache to assist in the investigation, Russell said, defining the "leg-att" position as meaning an FBI agent. An employee at the Athens embassy said the agent is John Guido.

A State Department official said the dispatching of the officials to investigate the bus attack was made under the US's 1986 "long-arm statute" that mandates US trials of suspects involved in the killing or harming of Americans in terrorist attacks abroad.

The law was enacted in the aftermath of the Achille Lauro hijacking in which Palestinian terrorists killed Leon Klinghoffer of New York.

It took American pressure on the Syrians to elicit Wednesday's Syria Times editorial condemning Sunday's terror bombings, an Israeli official said yesterday.

"Do you think the Syrians, voluntarily, would put in English what they said?"

"There were intensive American contacts since the attacks,"

he said.

He said it was not Israel's policy to request the Americans to induce Syrian condemnation of such incidents, and that Jerusalem had not done so in this case.

Eran Etzion, Israeli Foreign Ministry Director-General Uri Saviv - called Israeli reporters late Wednesday to say that at

HILLEL KUTTLER
WASHINGTON

the start of the opening session of the resumed talks in Maryland that afternoon, Syrian Ambassador Waleid Mualem "condemned the attack and referred to the article in Syria Times, and said that peace is the best answer to those

who deal in violence."

But the Israeli official said he is "not certain that Syria condemned it."

He indicated that Ambassador Itamar Rabinovich believes merely that Mualem's words are "worthy of attention."

"He said something that may be could be understood as ex-

pressing sorrow," the official said, but stopped short of stating that Saviv was incorrectly interpreting the declaration.

The negotiations on security arrangements continued yesterday and are to recess this afternoon.

They will resume Monday through Wednesday.

'Yediot' news editor questioned about alleged blackmail

YEDIOT Aharona's recently appointed news editor Eitan Amit was questioned yesterday by police about allegations that he blackmailed a former police officer into giving him classified information on an investigation against MK Avner Shaki some five years ago.

Amit, former sports editor who replaced Ruth Ben-Ari recently, was released on bail.

Detectives also searched his home.

However, a police source said

that the former officer, Danny Weig, who filed the complaint only six or seven months ago, is unreliable.

Weig was ousted from the force about five years ago following allegations of fraud.

But another senior source said that just because Weig was "unreliable on other matters, it doesn't mean to say this complaint is not justified."

"We have been investigating this affair for some six months and do not go after anyone

RAINE MARCUS
and BILL HUTMAN

analists without carefully examining the allegations and receiving the necessary authorizations."

After he left the police, Weig became a private investigator, and was arrested about seven months ago on allegations of fraud and other offenses.

It is not clear whether he filed his complaint against Amit at the same time, but when he was arrested he offered to "cooperate"

on other cases.

Weig's complaint stated that Amit threatened that unless he gave him the Shaki report, he would disclose in Yediot that Weig was caught in a brothel.

According to police, Weig gave Amit the report and the brothel incident was not mentioned.

Amit, said the police spokesman, also allegedly received other payoffs from Weig.

Detectives only got word of the incident several months ago, when making inquiries about an-

other case, he said.

The case was handled with sensitivity to the work of the media and the rights of journalists to use sources, the statement said.

The State Attorney's Office gave the go-ahead to question Amit.

In the past, Internal Security Minister Moshe Shahal stressed that any allegations of criminal offenses against journalists would be strictly reviewed by both him and the police inspector-general prior to launching investigations.

Three held in alleged scam involving defense surplus

THREE men, including two former IAF officers, suspected of fraudulently obtaining and selling surplus Defense Ministry supplies abroad without the necessary authorization were remanded for 11 days by Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court yesterday.

Udi Arazi, the owner of the Ra'anaa-based Tagar company, which sells surplus military and IAF equipment abroad; Moshe Landau, in charge of the company's logistics and technical department; and Zvi Leshem are suspected of accepting and giving bribes, fraud, breach of trust, theft, and conspiracy to commit fraud.

Landau formerly served in the IAF, while Leshem is a lieutenant-general (res.) in the force and was in charge of selling military

equipment. After the purchase from the IAF, Leshem was employed by the Defense Ministry before being appointed managing director of Aerofast Israel, which operates in partnership with Tagar.

Police said offenses were first committed about five years ago, and the probe was initially launched undercover by the military police some three years ago before the National Fraud Squad was recently brought into the picture.

National Fraud Squad Chief Cmdr. Yerahmiel Halperin said more arrests are expected and that additional companies are involved in the massive fraud, which cost the ministry tens of millions of dollars.

"Most of the companies' emp-

loyees are former IAF officers who abused their knowledge of equipment and the system, learned while in the force, and took advantage of their contacts to defraud the country out of tens of millions of dollars," he said.

They used all sorts of tricks to fraudulently obtain equipment to be sent abroad. Hundreds of deals were conducted in this way.

He refused to go into further details, but sources said a total of three companies, employing former IAF and Defense Ministry

officers, are involved in the massive scam.

Police are interrogating civilians, while the military police and the Defense Ministry are investigating military personnel.

Arazi, together with Leshem and Landau, defrauded the country out of more than \$3 million, police told the court. Police suspect that while Leshem was employed by the Defense Ministry he enabled Landau and Arazi to purchase surplus military equipment at a greatly reduced cost to be sold abroad without the con-

sent of the ministry's Sibat department.

Police are still investigating how the equipment was transferred abroad without the required authorization, and if other officials were involved. Police are also investigating the case in the US and other countries.

Sources said some equipment was shipped to countries which have no formal ties with Israel.

All three suspects denied the allegations and said they were willing to undergo polygraph tests.



From left: Udi Arazi, Moshe Landau and Zvi Leshem



(Ailon Ron/Israel Sun)

CONTEST

(Continued from Page 1)

to suspect the microphone wires were carrying electrical charges. Their motto for the evening: "Take it easy, it's only the Pre-E."

Mann's costumes were better than her jokes. But the comedy routines between entrants were the best part of the show. Perhaps the true winners were comedienne Milki Kaun, who gently mocked every ethnic group in the country, and the drag act Baot Pessia.

This year's gimmick entry was the Hassidic-funk dance group Off Simches from Bnei Brak with a song "Oy, Oy, Oy."

Other hopefuls were politically correct ensembles like Navi Shalom - five singers including a blonde and an Ethiopian immigrant - and the hyper PC combination of Arab Samir Shukri,

Jewess Ayelet Tasa, and an all-black back-up band.

The fate of this year's Pre-Eurovision Song Contest was in some doubt as Israel Television received scores of requests to postpone it until after the week of mourning for Sunday's terror victims. On Wednesday, ITV head Yair Stern decided the show must go on - mainly because of the technical and logistical problems involved in rescheduling a show with 12 competing singers and groups, filler acts, and seven panels of 21 judges around the country.

As a compromise, at the outset of the broadcast, Leventhal explained the decision to carry on with the contest "to show Hamas we won't stop singing." A mobile studio broadcast carried interviews with some of the victims in Jerusalem's Shaare Zedek Hospital.

Ulamei Nof Yerushalayim
made our wedding unforgettable.

Michal and Guy Bouwman
The Cowan and Polak Families,
Jerusalem and Amsterdam

Laniado's New Delivery Room Area

The 8-room Delivery and Obstetrics Operation Theatre Area in the new Maternity Wing of Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital, Netanya, was dedicated this week by Mr. and Mrs. Moshe Taub in memory of their parents, who perished in the Holocaust. Pictured above are: Moshe and Malka Taub with Chaim Fachler, Laniado's Public Relations Director.

super charter Galilee Tours
THE LEADING COMPANY TO JORDAN AND EGYPT

MARCH SPECIAL OFFER

PETRA one day tour \$120
INCLUDES: ENTRANCE-FEE + THORSEIN PETRA LOCAL GUIDE AND LUNCH PER PERSON

JORDAN DISCOVERY \$349
4 DAYS / 5 NIGHTS B/B From

VISIT: AMMAN, UM-QEIS, MADABA, MT. NEBO, WADI MUJIB, PETRA, JERASH.

EGYPT 4 DAYS / 3 NIGHTS From \$125
VISIT: CAIRO, PYRAMIDS, EGYPTIAN MUSEUM 5 stars from 57\$ per night BUS ONE WAY TO CAIRO : 30

FOR GROUPS CALL DORON AT 03-5253111
CALL-NOW 03-5252999

FOR FURTHER DETAILS, CALL ANY OF THE TRAVEL AGENTS.
GALILEE TOURS BRANCHES: TEL-AVIV, 42 BEN YEHUDA ST. JERUSALEM 02-258866 TIBERIAS 06-720330 EILAT 07-335145

PRICE PER PERSON IN DOUBLE ROOM. DEPARTURES ONLY IN MARCH. NOT INCLUDE REGISTRATION FEES, TAX, TIP, VISA. DOES NOT INCLUDE INSURANCE.

Tsad Kadima
The Association for the Advancement of
Conductive Education in Israel
presents

Flautist Akiva Ben-Horin and his orchestra
in
"פסוקי חיים על נגינת פסוקי חיים"

a program of Jewish and Israeli music
Monday, March 4, 1996, at 8:00 p.m.
Gerard Behar Center, Jerusalem

Tickets from the box office, Tel. 02-251155

All proceeds to be used for treating children with cerebral palsy

When giving advice, it pays to have all the details

Sometimes, being right makes all the difference. That's why CommStock's U.S.-licensed professionals base their investment recommendations on state-of-the-art analytical software, real-time information from the world's financial markets, and years of experience in Israel and abroad. Talk to us instead of losing sleep about investing in mutual funds, stocks, futures, options, commodities or currencies.

For details, call Douglas Goldstein, Director of Securities, in our Jerusalem office at 02-244953

COMMSTOCK
EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO SUCCEED

CommStock Trading Ltd. (Est. 1981)
Futures, Options, and Stock Brokers
Jerusalem: City Tower, 34 Ben Yehuda St.
Tel. 02-244963; Fax: 02-244876
Ramat Gan: Beit Silver, 7 Abba Hillel St.
Tel. 03-575-882627; Fax: 03-575-6990

Home-quote terminals and beepers available.

Winning cards & numbers

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the jack of spades, jack of hearts, jack of diamonds, and 10 of clubs.

In last night's Payis Hazak drawing, the holder of ticket number 110761 won NIS 1,000,000.

The holder of ticket number 396418 won a car.

Tickets numbered 016636, 744731, 200101, 019750, 282152, 073501, 010530 and 669397 won NIS 5,000. Those tickets ending in 65175, 51661, 08939, 37909, 98269, 15882, 07539, 39903, 84744, 84811, 01452, 76640, 49549, 74891, 37370 63223, 41585, 91311 and 07213 won NIS 1,000. Tickets ending in 670, 219, 168, 497, and 105 won NIS 100. Tickets ending in 64, 65, 46, 44 and 30 won NIS 24. Tickets ending in 4 and 9 won NIS 8.

(Continued from Page 1)

Likud's dismal state and about the dire need to raise morale. I told him that we were a party on our own path now ... In view of what we had experienced in the past, and of what we cannot and shall not forget, I told him I had doubts we could reach an agreement."

Levy maintained that his apprehensions about dealing with the Likud were borne out "in the despicable manner in which all this was portrayed in the media. We were made to look like petty hagglers, when we did not so much as respond ... The way this was handled offended us and inflicted damage on the very morale that was to be boosted ... we have nothing but contempt for the unfair handling of all this."

Asked about Netanyahu's wish

ISRAEL DISTRICT ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

The ZOA Forum presents a dialogue on
THE PEACE PROCESS... WHAT NEXT?

Participants:
MORTON A. KLEIN
National President, Zionist Organization of America
America's foremost critic of PLO violations and crusader against anti-Israel propaganda

DR. GALIA GOLAN
Professor of Political Science, Hebrew University
Activist and leader in Peace Now Movement
Chairman:

YEHUDA LEVY
President and Publisher of The Jerusalem Post

SUNDAY, MARCH 3, AT 3 P.M.
ZOA House - Torcynner Hall
1 Daniel Frisch St., Tel Aviv

Program co-sponsored by The Jerusalem Post
The Public is Invited - Admission Free - Program in English

Ramat Beit Shemesh for the Religious Public

Your golden opportunity to buy a beautiful and spacious apartment in Ramat Beit Shemesh. Sample prices:

- 3 1/2 rooms - from \$105,000
- 4 rooms - from \$113,000
- 4 1/2 rooms - from \$120,000
- 6 room cottages - \$175,000

* Garden apartments and cottages, and other bargains
Grants of up to \$18,000 for those entitled.

Take advantage of these opening prices - they won't be repeated!!
Not Real Estate, Tel. 02-375161 Fax: 02-375162

King David Hotel is opposite the...
MENORAH HOTEL Jerusalem
in the heart of Jerusalem, very close to popular tourist sites. Cable T.V., breakfast, refrigerator, \$39 per day per person in double room.
24 King David St., Tel. 972-2-253311
Fax: 972-2-242860
Listen to Arutz 7, 711 and 1143 AM, 105 FM

LEVY

(Continued from Page 1)

to meet him face to face, Levy said it was "theatrics, lacking sincerity, and responsibility. Two years ago, when the man apologized, I said I will judge him by his actions. I want nothing personally."

Levy stressed that "Gesher is not considering a merger with the Likud and will retain its independence, even if a link with the Likud is formed. The basis will have to be how to best further Gesher's ideological goals." He said he wants nothing for himself and did not ask for Foreign Ministry in a possible Netanyahu government.

Sharon confirmed that "the subject of portfolios or the number of slots on the list had not been raised by Levy. He only wanted what 'Tsmet got'."

Sharon was optimistic and thought "it is now possible to move on to the next phase. I want to thank Tsomet leader Rafael Eitan for his flexibility which made all this possible. I am sure we can form a three-way alignment and then expand it with a fourth partner."

VICTIMS
(Continued from Page 1)

financial burden on the state's coffers, and would certainly come at the expense of other needs, which are also important."

However, Justices Shlomo Levine, Gavriel Bach and Dalia Dorner rejected this argument completely.

When the government signed the reparations agreement, they said, it took away one of the survivors' fundamental property rights: The right to sue Germany.

The survivors therefore deserve compensation for this lost right, just as land-owners deserve compensation if their property is expropriated, the justices said.

"The individual has a right to receive suitable compensation for the damage done, and the claim that the obligation to pay compensation imposes a financial burden on the government cannot stand [against this right]," Levine wrote.

Due to technical problems, classified advertisements do not appear in today's paper.

PERSONALIZED ENGLISH Children's Books
Only \$14.50 (in NIS)
Call: 03-960-6522
Local and Overseas Delivery

מכאן הכל

Peres: We must hold Arafat accountable

ON LEVY

"WE have no choice but to hold Yasser Arafat accountable for what takes place in the territories under his control," Prime Minister Shimon Peres told visiting Hungarian Defense Minister Gyorgi Keleti yesterday.

"We don't want to break him, but to make it clear to him that if things continue as they are now, he himself is liable to fall victim [to the terrorists]."

"We don't expect Arafat to serve the State of Israel. All we ask is that he exercise his authority for security in the areas he controls. We want him to do in Gaza what the Jordanian government does in Amman, and that there won't be two armed forces within the same jurisdiction," Peres said.

Peres also said Israel has done more for the Palestinians than any other country, certainly more than the Arab states.

He briefed Keleti on the situation in the region, saying the peace process will take time, and has long been opposed by extremists. But, he added, he hopes the Arab-Israeli conflict will be resolved by the year 2000.

Keleti thanked Peres for the warm reception he has received here, and hoped for a closer defense relationship between the two countries. He expressed the condolences of the Hungarian people and government for the three terror attacks this week.

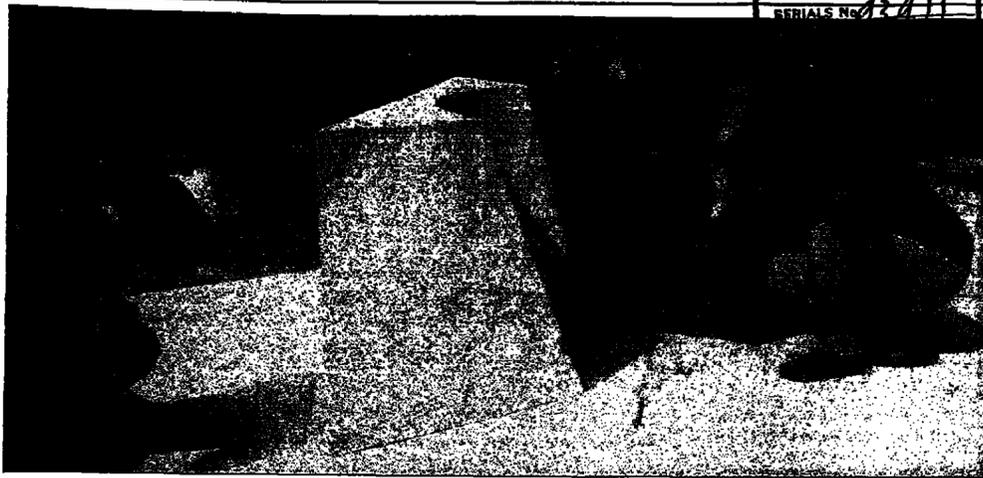
Leftists, haredim nearly clash at bombing site

POLICE and border policemen yesterday prevented a violent clash between haredim and left-wing activists at the square near this week's Jerusalem bus bombing.

The Labor Party Youth came to the site to hold a vigil in honor of the victims. Shortly after they arrived, hundreds of haredim began gathering, and loud quarrels began. As a brawl was about to begin, security forces stepped in and separated the two sides.

The haredim claimed the Labor Youth planned to hold a political demonstration, and that there was no place for this at a site where dozens of people had been killed. Labor activist Lior Horev said the haredim are not allowing other groups to come and express their sorrow over the killings. "The Likud is trying to gain political capital from the attack and is dividing the people."

The haredim responded by saying "traitors" and "Peres is next."



Workers from Abu Gosh put the finishing touches on Yitzhak Rabin's tombstone, which will be unveiled today on what would have been his 74th birthday. The ceremony, to begin at 10:30 a.m. at Mt. Herzl cemetery, will be attended by the president, prime minister, cabinet members, chief of general staff, and members of the diplomatic corps. (Ariel Jerolimski)

Dan Morali gets life for murder of Palestinian

DANIEL Morali, 44, was sentenced to life imprisonment yesterday by Beersheba District Court for the March 1994 murder of a Palestinian truck driver who was praying by the roadside.

In December, Morali, of Ashkelon, was convicted of the premeditated murder of Riad Salmiye, 35, from Kafr Ina, near Hebron.

Morali apparently decided to kill Salmiye to avenge the death of his brother, a border policeman who was hit by an Arab car in Hebron.

After the conviction, Morali said the court was making him a scapegoat because of the change in public atmosphere after the Rabin assassination. According to testimony at his trial, Morali was driving along the Kiryat Gat-Hebron road when he saw a truck

stopped by the roadside and Salmiye standing beside it. He made a U-turn and drove back and shot Salmiye, who managed to live long enough to report his assailant's license plate number.

Morali gave several versions of the cause of the murder. In one, he said he fired at Salmiye because he thought he was about to commit an act of terrorism. He said Salmiye "made a strange, sudden movement with his hands and was calling out in Arabic."

The court concluded, however, that Salmiye was merely praying.

A psychiatrist called by Morali's defense testified that Morali was in a state of "pathological grief" at the time of the murder, because his brother had been killed a year earlier.

The three judges rejected that argument. (Itim)

Tibi rejects crackdown on Hamas as political entity

DAVID RUDGE

THE Palestinian Authority must deal immediately with radical Islamic terrorists whose actions also harm the interests of the Palestinian people, but not with Hamas as a political entity, Dr. Ahmed Tibi, an adviser to PA President Yasser Arafat, said yesterday.

"There is a difference between Hamas, which is a popular movement representing 25 percent of the Palestinian people, and those armed units which use terror," said Tibi.

"The PA has to deal with these units with more determination than in the past. We are talking about dozens of activists, for whose despicable terrorist actions the Palestinian people are paying a heavy price."

They are endangering the proposed redeployment, agreements reached between Israel and the PA, as well as harming the Pales-

tinian economy by causing the closure of the territories, said Tibi.

He maintained, however, that this form of "collective punishment" is counterproductive and ultimately harmful to Israel's interest, because it increases tension and pushes people into extremism.

"These armed groups are killing innocent people, violating the Palestinian law and damaging the highest interests of the Palestinians," he said. "They must be dealt with according to Palestinian law, but not like some Israelis are saying by elimination."

"Anybody who violates the law must be arrested and brought to trial as soon as possible. It should be noted, however, that those responsible for the bus attacks came from an area under Israeli control, Hebron, and not from the PA areas.

Hamas claims Sunday's attacks

JON IMMANUEL

HAMAS yesterday issued a leaflet confirming responsibility for the Jerusalem and Ashkelon attacks and identified Ibrahim Sarahna, 25, and Majdi Abu Wadeh, 19, both of the Fawwar refugee camp, near Hebron, as the perpetrators.

The two families, meanwhile, welcomed guests to celebrate their "martyrdom."

The leaflet, issued in Hebron after the names of the suspected suicide bombers had already been released, appeared genuine and said that "Jihad will continue until the occupation is removed from every bit of Palestine."

It contradicted other leaflets by Izzadin Kassar, the armed wing of Hamas, which denied responsibility, and by "The Cell of the Martyr Yihye Ayyash," which claimed responsibility but offered a "historic possibility" if Israel stopped pursuing Hamas and released Hamas prisoners.

If the Hebron leaflet is genuine, the other leaflets are fake or

show a division of opinion in Hamas over both the utility of Sunday's massacre and future political strategy.

The Palestinian Authority distributed a leaflet by Izzadin Kassar, which some claim the PA dictated, denying responsibility, but it has been arresting Hamas activists and has ordered all unlicensed weapons to be handed in by today, after which it will raid places where its suspects unlicensed arms are hidden.

It is the second time guns have been called in during the past year, both after Israel demanded the measure following bombing attacks. The first attempt was largely unsuccessful.

In Fawwar, Reuters reported joy among relatives and many others in the camp of 5,000 when the Hamas leaflet confirmed the "martyrdom" of Sarahna and Wadeh.

"We are not accepting condolences, we are accepting congratulations," said signs hanging in their homes.

Closure eased for Gaza goods

Jerusalem Post Staff and news agencies

ISRAEL allowed goods in yesterday from the Gaza Strip, after imposing a closure on the territories following Sunday's suicide bombings, Palestinian and Israeli officials said.

In another development, Finance Minister Avraham Shohat ordered the VAT Authority to deduct NIS 3.5 million from the sums owed to the Palestinian Authority in order to pay for the PA's water bill.

The PA was warned to pay Merkot for the use of water by West Bank residents. The PA also owes money to Bezek and

Hadassah.

The army announced yesterday it was letting goods in "back-to-back" - taking them off Palestinian trucks on one side of the border and loading them on Israeli trucks on the other side.

"The back-to-back exchange of goods at Karni is going on," a Palestinian officer at Karni checkpoint between Israel and Gaza said. "Essential goods are being brought into Gaza, and Palestinian agricultural products are leaving to Israel and the West Bank."

GREAT MONEY-MAKING OPPORTUNITY!

In all Middle East Countries liquid chlorine bleach sells from \$2 to \$4 a gallon. Our machines make it for only 5c a gallon using water and salt.

Our world-multipatented anodes is our only secret!

After many years in this field, we decided to appoint exclusive licensees to manufacture our machines to few people in Middle East only to make and sell the bleach in their respective Countries.

The profit possibilities are real and enormous! INVESTIGATE!!

Our licensees will be buying our anodes only at very attractive prices. Everything else to complete the machines are available locally.

The minimum investment for anodes only is \$100,000, depending upon size of Country.

We now manufacture 6 sizes priced from \$20,000 to \$500,000 and they produce from 50 to 50,000 gallons each per 24-hour operation.

We kindly and strongly request that you investigate the cost, demand and availability of chlorine bleach in any Middle East Country then call us!

I Thank You!

Tim Themy-Kotronakis, President BRINECELL, INC. USA Phone: (801) 973-6400 Fax: (801) 973-6463

VAT STOP BLAMING ARAFAT!

It is the Government of Israel... which shamelessly, even after more than 200 Israelis have died in bus bombings and other nefarious acts of Arab terror, continues to reward arch-terrorist Yasser Arafat with our sacred land and holy sites in Eretz Yisrael.

It is the Government of Israel... which "koshered" the bloody PLO leader in Oslo, thereby absolving him of responsibility for thousands of murders of Jews and non-Jews alike, worldwide!

It is the Government of Israel... which ignores the terrible pain and suffering of countless families of Jewish victims by declaring its intention to continue the suicidal "peace" process while releasing additional Arab terrorists.

As Purim approaches and you are privileged to rejoice with your loved ones, remember the many victims of Arab terror in Israel by supporting the vital activities of VAT International.

Please send your generous check (a meaningful "mishloach manot") to:

THE VICTIMS OF ARAB TERROR EMERGENCY FUND
In Israel: P.O.B. 32103, Jerusalem. Tel/Fax 02-821106
In U.S.A.: 1 Penn Plaza, Suite 100, New York, N.Y. 10001.
May G-d bless you and your families.

*Speakers and Video Documentaries available upon request. 05-7040

NEOT HAKIKAR TOURING Co.

JORDAN
Petra 2 days - \$169
Jordan and Jerusalem 4 days - \$399 from Eilat

EGYPT
Cairo Tours 2, 3 or 4 days from \$155
Nile cruise 8 days in Egypt

SINAI EXPERIENCE
Two days of camel riding, hiking and jeeps - \$125
1 week package - 4 days Sinai Safari + 4 nights Hotel in Eilat \$310
(April 21/2002, foreign passport holders only)

02-736767, 03-5225099

UNITED STATES OF EL AL

FROM NOW ON, YOU CAN FLY EL AL TO ANY SPOT IN AMERICA

EL AL invites you to fly non-stop to America on the most advanced passenger aircraft in the world - the 747-400.

- Choose from 3 flight options: day flight, night flight, and a flight to Newark airport.
- EL AL is the only carrier offering you a non-stop flight to any destination in North America on a Boeing 747-400, the newest aircraft, pampering you with a number of special features: exceptionally comfortable seats, individual video screens showing four newly released movies, and more.
- Direct connecting EL AL flights - from New York to Washington, Miami, Los Angeles, Chicago and Boston, in addition to connecting flights throughout the United States with the leading American carriers.
- VUSA PLUS Bonus - Get a free EL AL domestic U.S. flight when purchasing VUSA tickets for flying anywhere in the U.S.
- Special offer for business people - Fly Tourist Class to New York for just \$1,259 (maximum stay 10 days; no minimum stay restriction).
- Frequent Traveler Club - If you're a club member, you're already half way to a free ticket! To join, call 03-5760011.

Fly The United States of EL AL and Arrive Non-Stop in America. For further information, contact your travel agent today

ONLY ON EL AL

Non-Stop Flights From Los Angeles*

For your convenience, you can now fly LA-TA non-stop.

And, You Can Also Fly To And From Newark Non-Stop!

Fly non-stop to Newark, the most modern airport in the metropolitan New York area and also the closest to Manhattan, with the largest number of connecting flights to every city in the U.S.

These flights are on 747-400s, the most advanced aircraft in the world.

*As of March 31, 1996

EL AL - YOUR GATEWAY TO THE WORLD

EL AL

bombings

blackmail

VICTIMS

Due to technical problems, please call 03-5225099 for more information.

Children's Books
Only \$1.49 in US
Call: (800) 800-8000

THE JERUSALEM POST

F. DAVID RADLER, Chairman, Board of Directors
YEHUDA LEVY, President & Publisher
Founded in 1932 by GERSHON AGRON

DAVID BAR-ILLAN, Executive Editor
JEFF BARAK, Managing Editor
ALEC ISRAEL, Associate Editor, Copy
DAN IZENBERG, News Editor
DAVID BERNIN, Night Editor
SAM ORBAUM, Features Editor
THOMAS OTDZYER, Foreign Editor
JUDY MONTAGU, Op-Ed Editor
AMITZ ASA-EL, Business Editor

AVI GOLAN, Executive Vice President, Marketing & Advertising
PAUL STASZEWSKI, CPA, Vice President, Finance
YOSSI HORN, Vice President, Production
STANLEY SCHRIGER, Circulation Manager
BENZION MILLER, Tel Aviv office Manager

EDITORIAL OFFICES AND ADMINISTRATION The Jerusalem Post Building, P.O. Box 81, Romema, Jerusalem (91000)
Telephone 02-315666 Fax 02-389527 CIRCULATION - 02-315610 Fax 02-389017 ADVERTISING - 02-315608, 02-315637-40
Fax 02-388408 TEL AVIV: 3 Rehov Hamasrah, P.O. Box 28398 (61283) Telephone 03-6390333 Fax 03-6390277 HAIFA: 20 Nordau,
Hadar Hacarmel, Telephone 04-623166. Published daily, except Saturday, in Jerusalem, Israel by The Palestine Post Ltd. Printed by
The Jerusalem Post Press in Jerusalem. Registered at the G.P.O. © The Jerusalem Post 1996. Reproduction, or storage in a retrieval
system, or any other form, is prohibited without permission. Editors: 1932-1953 GERSHON AGRON, 1953-1974 TED LURIE,
1974-1975 LEA BEN DOR, 1975-1989 ARI RATH and ERWIN FRENKEL, 1990-1992 N. DAVID GROSS

A sorry spectacle

It is hardly a secret that the assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin had a dramatic impact on the popularity of the Likud. Reacting in a way psychologists can explain far better than political observers, the public identified those who opposed Rabin's policies with his killer. With the elections advanced by five months, the Likud obviously felt it could credibly challenge the Labor government only by uniting all parties opposed to the Oslo process. It is a pity that it took this turn of events to prompt unity moves. Israeli political parties should have overcome petty differences and coalesced into two or three blocs long ago. But that the crisis resulted in a unity drive is nevertheless encouraging. The motive in this case is less important than the result. The first move to unity was the incorporation of Tsomet into the Likud's Knesset list. Many in the Likud have complained that the merger was too costly for Likud candidates, who were pushed down on the list of "realistic" seats. But most recognized that unity would be rewarded at the ballot box, and that it offered the only prospect of victory. The second attempt at unity was made only this week. Likud MK Ariel Sharon initiated contacts with MK David Levy, who had bolted the Likud to form his own Geshet Party. After arduous negotiations, Levy appeared yesterday to reject the Likud offer. But a last-minute concession by the Likud and Tsomet seemed to change his mind. Chances are that it is an offer

he can't refuse. What is wrong with this particular merger is not that Levy's followers will get seven virtually assured seats in the Knesset instead of the three or four they could have gotten as an independent party. Nor is the move faulty because Levy, despite all his grandstanding protestations of integrity, may bolt the new alliance if it loses the election. What Levy proved last night is that he has forgotten nothing and learned nothing. He is just as pompous, petulant, petty, and ludicrous as he has ever been. He is incapable of thinking either of the good of the country or the direction it should take. The only thing that animates him is his burning personal ambition and a compulsive passion to undermine Likud chairman Benjamin Netanyahu. The very fact that he has demanded the foreign ministry if the Likud forms the next government belies his claim to champion the "have-nots." Had he really intended to help the poor and the weak, he would have sought such ministries as housing or finance. In what promises to be a close election, it may be necessary for Netanyahu to try to attract every vote. But if he is to maintain any kind of credibility as a potential prime minister, he must continue to avoid making commitments on government portfolios. To his credit, he has not made such commitments to Tsomet leader Rafael Eitan. He must make no exception for David Levy.

Buchanan and Oslo

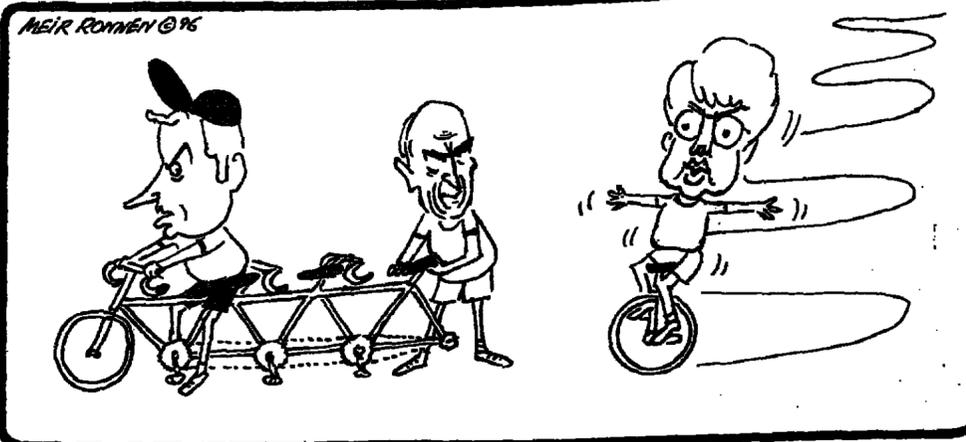
PRESIDENTIAL contender Pat Buchanan has good reason to be happy about the latest Republican primary results. After winning in New Hampshire, he finished a respectable third in the Arizona race, behind stumbling "front-runner" Sen. Robert Dole, who in turn trailed political newcomer Steve Forbes. He also came in second to Dole in South Dakota, a state viewed as Dole's indisputable territory. For a candidate initially considered no more than a fringe phenomenon, Buchanan has turned in a stunning performance. That he has spent relatively little on the campaign makes his showing close to incredible. This does not mean that he has a ghost of a chance of being nominated as the Republican candidate for the presidency. It is even doubtful that he will garner enough delegates to the Republican convention to become a candidate for the vice presidency. But unless his fortunes suddenly turn sour - which is unlikely in the absence of a charismatic contender in the current Republican crop - he will be a force to be reckoned with. Buchanan draws bigots, antisemites, and xenophobes to his flag. But it would be a mistake to view him only as the American version of Le Pen or Zhirinovskiy. While his French and Russian counterparts are unlikely to enlarge their popular support unless their countries are afflicted with a major economic crisis, Buchanan may develop broader appeal. The historic trend he is riding is uniquely American. Known as isolationism, it can only exist in a country as powerful, rich, productive, and self-sufficient as the US. It was unfashionable as long as another superpower posed a global threat which forced America to form alliances in Europe and Asia. But with the threat removed by the collapse of the Soviet Union, the return to "fortress America" may seem an enticing proposition to a large segment of the electorate. Not surprisingly, such a trend jibes with the idea that the country's gates should be closed to immigrants, particularly those who do not happen to be white. That such a vision of America is neither

economically viable nor humane is very much beside the point. The fact is that a growing number of Americans are willing to vote for a demagogue who promotes it. And in a country where the government is almost obsessively responsive to the electorate's mood, it will be impossible to ignore them, regardless of who is elected to the presidency. The ramifications of these developments for Israel are clear. A populist, an isolationist, and an America firster in the worst sense of these appellations, Buchanan wants a halt to foreign aid and the end of American military presence abroad. To expect his followers to support international guarantees of any kind, let alone interventions which risk American lives, is totally unrealistic. Even more moderate Americans now oppose military involvement except in defense of what are clearly American interests. Yet the whole structure of the Oslo agreements depends on American financial, political, and moral support for the process. Only the US can muster the support of other industrial countries for the huge investment, the regional Marshall Plan envisioned by Prime Minister Shimon Peres. The agreement with Syria, too, hinges on the amount of political, economic, and moral investment the US is willing to make to entice Damascus into a White House signing ceremony. In the short run, the Buchanan phenomenon may actually help President Bill Clinton to win a second term: It is still far easier to run against a party which can be painted with the brush of extremism than against plain conservatives. And Clinton's reelection will undoubtedly bolster Israeli-American cooperation. But what will happen four years hence is anybody's guess. Whether Buchanan himself or a slightly more palatable candidate, with less negative baggage, will then capture the imagination of the American voter is less relevant than the fact that isolationism is again becoming a significant force in American politics. It makes the notion that Israel can put its trust in a regional Pax Americana seem a short-sighted, unacceptable gamble with the nation's future.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

NOT ALL JEWS ARE SMART
Sir, - On January 28, you ran an article, "Hutza!" by Larry Derfner, about a speech that A.B. Yehoshua gave to the World Jewish Congress's Global Assembly in Jerusalem. He told the assembly, "We don't need you anymore."
Larry Derfner agrees with Mr. Yehoshua. They both believe that Israel is strong enough financially, so while it appreciates what the Diaspora Jews have done for Israel in the past, no more help is needed. He says, "The governments of the Western world are falling all over each other to pat us on the back and help us out with the peace process. The only thing American Jews had to do with the peace process is that a lot of them are trying their best to screw it up."
He says the World Jewish Congress's Global Assembly could not handle this criticism. They responded to A.B. Yehoshua's speech with "Hutza." "Stick to writing novels."
I believe that people like A.B. Yehoshua and Larry Derfner are not only ingrates, but they are seriously hurting Israel. By making these speeches and writing articles like that, they are discouraging many American Jews from exerting their influence and giving their money to

help Israel. The US is giving to Israel, in one form or another, over three billion dollars a year. This is about \$700 a year, for every Jew in Israel, close to \$3,000 a year to every Israeli family, and of course, billions of dollars were given to Israel by Jews all over the world.
To get this help, many of those Mr. Derfner calls "Diaspora Jewish machers" have spent a great deal of time, effort and money. Many of them that I know and admire could make five or 10 times as much money in private industry as they are making now, but they are doing it because they love Israel, and they admire what Israeli Jews have accomplished.
I myself have been a supporter of Israel for 40 years. Among others, I financed the Leib and Golda Orenstein Shelter for the Elderly in Kiryat Ono, which houses 32 elderly Israelis and has a day-care center for 100 more.
Sir, - I am writing on behalf of B'nai B'rith to thank the many caring and wonderful people who responded to the February 18 bus accident involving our Active Retirees in Israel (ARI) and Return to Active Retirees.
We appreciate all that you have done.
DEBORAH AMSTER, Director, B'nai B'rith Israel Commission



The trial balloon that burst

MOSHE ZAK

SHIMON Peres was overjoyed when an Arabic translation of his book *The New Middle East* was published in Egypt. What his aides didn't tell him was that the Egyptian publisher had added an introduction in which he said that the purpose of the publication was to reveal Israel's strategy to dominate the region. Something similar happened to Yossi Beilin with the document he presented to Abu Mazen concerning the permanent-status agreement. While the document caused a great stir, there is no Palestinian consent to preserving the unity of Jerusalem under full Israeli rule. On the contrary, the plan left the Old City, which is the heart of the problem, for discussion at a later stage. The dramatic presentation of the Israeli plan, supposedly acceptable to the Palestinians, came when it appeared that Yasser Arafat had succeeded in imposing his authority on all the Palestinian organizations, prevailing on them to give up terrorism until after the Israeli elections. Although less spectacular attacks had not ceased, for seven months there had been no suicide bombings which caused massive casualties, the kind of attack that shocks the Israeli public. (Two suicide car bombs exploded in the Gaza District just before the Rabin assassination, but no Israeli

deaths resulted.) This apparent tranquility was designed to show Israelis that there is a partner and an agenda for discussions on a permanent agreement, including the complex problem of Jerusalem. But Sunday's bus bombings in Jerusalem and Ashkelon upset the plan to present the PLO as Israel's strategic partner. On Thursday night, the PA notified Israel that it had reached an agreement with the Hamas leaders in Gaza on a temporary cessation of violence if Israel stopped its war against Hamas. On this basis, the closure of the territories was lifted on Friday morning. But Sunday's bombings clarified the real meaning of the agreement. The agreement provided that the Hamas leadership in Gaza would not admit responsibility for any brutal attack on Israelis, which would enable Arafat to deny Gaza residents are involved in terror. The agreement also allowed Arafat to submit to foreign diplomats the absurd notion of collusion between Arab and Israeli extremists. This is far from the type of confidence-building

measure the Israeli public needs. THE PUBLIC also should not be deceived by tales of the possibility of Israeli-Palestinian agreement on Jerusalem. In the long run, these stories are liable to erode the Israeli consensus on a united Jerusalem. Confused formulations cannot turn a partition plan into a plan for the preservation of unity. Abu Ala, the Oslo negotiator, explained this week that a united Jerusalem does not exclude Palestinian sovereignty in the city. Everything depends on interpretation. Abu Mazen cannot possibly agree to the Israeli formula of a united Jerusalem "eternally under Israeli rule." He judged this to be an opening position, and he is familiar with the speed with which Israelis retreat from their opening positions in negotiations. One of the clauses in the plan presented to Abu Mazen, which grants the "right of return" to refugees in the context of family unification within Israel, also represents an erosion of Israel's traditional position. Most important, by agreeing to

a Palestinian state a priori, Israel is forfeiting an important bargaining card without getting anything in return. The statement that Peres has conditioned agreement to a Palestinian state on Jordan's approval is an embarrassment to King Hussein. For internal Arab reasons, he will be forced to deny that he objects to a Palestinian state, just as in talks with Arafat he denied that he objects to the deployment of Palestinian police on the Jordan River. "Whom do you believe, Peres or me?" Hussein asked, when Arafat told him he had heard of the king's opposition to such a deployment from Peres. Hussein would like to see a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation, but he wants to be the one who grants the Palestinians a state, not the Americans or Israelis. He also wants to avoid being confronted by a demand from Arafat for rotation as leader of the confederation. This demand is what made Hussein suspend the agreement he signed with the PLO in 1986. The Oslo team's plan for the permanent agreement cannot even serve as a basis for negotiations. Its disclosure was intended as a trial balloon, meant to fool the public into believing it is possible to reach a permanent agreement with the PLO. That balloon burst on Jaffa Road in Jerusalem. The writer, a veteran journalist, comments on current affairs.

From elitism to a kibbutz ghetto

ALLAN E. SHAPIRO

SHOULD the kibbutz movement be a "district" within the Labor Party? In organizational terms, this means that it is a separate sector, like the Arabs. At a time of increasing economic and social integration with its surroundings, does political ghettoization of the kibbutz make sense? Under the primary system, candidates for Labor's Knesset list are chosen partly by the entire party membership and partly by the various "districts" into which that membership is divided. The districts are geographical, with membership depending on place of residence, but Arabs, the moshavim, and the kibbutzim are exceptions. They are separate sectoral districts. This system has one significant payoff: It guarantees the kibbutz movement two safe seats on the Labor list. If this was all that was involved, it would be possible to reserve two safe slots for kibbutz members, just as representation is assured for women or new immigrants. However, much more than just representation is involved. The organizational setup is grounded in the pioneering ethos of the settlement movements in the Labor Party and in Israeli society as a whole. Since this conception flies in the face of changing realities, it has become a myth. Yesterday's elitism has become today's self-ghettoization. The separate kibbutz district in the Labor party may provide kibbutz candidates with a convenient way into the Knesset, but it may

also be a political dead end. In 1992, Ya'acov Tzur and Avraham Katz-Oz both failed to make the jump to the national party list, after serving the agreed maximum of two Knesset terms as representatives of the kibbutz district. This time it is the turn of Hagai Merom. Is chairmanship of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee enough of a political springboard to enable Merom to vault from kibbutz to national representation? Years ago that question wouldn't make sense. YESTERDAY'S pioneer is today's sucker. As a political animal, he is extinct. In political terms, the kibbutz movement now operates as a pressure group to advance its own interests. Current issues center around the kibbutz debt bailout, property rights in kibbutz-leased land and in members' housing, and pension and other social benefits of kibbutz members. At a recent panel discussion before kibbutz mem-

bers with four of the contestants for the kibbutz district seat Merom is vacating, no national issue was even mentioned. Elie Goldschmidt, currently chairman of the Knesset House Committee, is unopposed for reelection. In another four years, he will be in Merom's shoes and will have to take his chances on making the move to the national list. One of the candidates in the panel discussion made an interesting promise: He would so exclusively devote himself to kibbutz bread-and-butter concerns that he would free Goldschmidt to devote the next four years to national issues. Politically, the kibbutz is a pressure group under siege. Because of the current siege mentality, the political self-segregation is self-reinforcing. Narrow group concerns translate into parochial limitations in the quality of the emerging kibbutz leadership. In the pioneering days, kibbutz leaders had little formal education, but broad intellectual horizons. The trend is now in the opposite direction. The next generation of kibbutz leadership will have more formal education and narrower intellectual horizons. Both Merom and Goldschmidt are lawyers. They are both well

equipped for roles on the national scene. By assuming national responsibility at the peaks of Knesset leadership, they have moved beyond the constraints of pressure group representation. They may be the last of their breed. The coming generation of kibbutz politicians will in large measure be the product of courses in economics and business administration. Fortunately, there are exceptions. Unfortunately, but predictably, the exceptions are the weaker candidates. Ze'ev Shore, currently chairman of the Jordan Valley Regional Council, with training in social work, has a record of impressive achievement in promoting cultural activities and higher education. He has also carried out a far-reaching administrative reform of the local school system. Noga Botansky, a high school teacher of literature and language with a background of activity in youth and education in the framework of the Histadrut, is the best educated of the current candidates. In the panel discussion, the candidates were asked what they regarded as the source of their authority as future Knesset members. The three male candidates vied with one another in proclaiming they would faithfully obey the instructions of the kibbutz movement or of the membership. Botansky said she would obey her own conscience. The writer is a legal and political commentator.

POSTSCRIPTS

A TELEVISION commercial has been withdrawn from broadcast after viewers complained it satirized the 1963 assassination of US President John F. Kennedy. The commercial was for an anti-cattle parasite chemical, sold by Agvet, a New Zealand subsidiary of United States agricultural chemical company Merck, Sharp and Dohme. A masked figure is seen loading a gun in barn labeled the "Hay Bale Depository," apparently based on the Texas School Book Depository from where

Kennedy's alleged killer Lee Harvey Oswald fatally shot the president. TWO MEN who illegally plucked the tail feathers from two golden eagles were sentenced to work in a chicken processing plant. "You'll have your fill of feathers - and, hopefully, you'll never want to be around another feather in your life," the judge told them. John Kevin Cooper, 24, and Douglas Grant Rustay, 25, were also placed on 18 months' proba-

tion and fined \$1,100 each. Cooper, a student, and Rustay, a convenience store manager, were ordered to work a 40-hour week at a chicken plant. In 1993, the men broke into an eagle cage at a wildlife center and stole the feathers. Possession of golden eagle feathers is a federal offense. Publish your favorite photo in *Picture Postscripts!* We're only looking for the very best: your photo could be bizarre,

humorous, poignant, historic, or just an eye-catching shot. Please submit photos ONLY (no slides or negatives), along with the name of the photographer and any relevant caption information. This is not a contest, and payment is not provided. If you want your photo returned you MUST include a stamped, self-addressed envelope. The Jerusalem Post cannot be held responsible for damaged or lost photos. Send your photos to: *Postscripts*, The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, Jerusalem 91000.

הכנאמן הצהר

Harsh Law
Kalam mix

Harsh facts of life

YOSEF GOELL

THIS week's renewed spate of Palestinian terrorist outrages against Israeli civilians came within two days of the barbarous slaughter of the returning Iraqi defectors and their families by Saddam Hussein.

At first there seems little connection between the events in Jerusalem and Ashkelon, in which 25 civilians were slaughtered by two young Palestinian suicide bombers, and Saddam Hussein's butchery in Iraq.

But there is a common denominator - Arab public opinion's apparent acceptance of such brutalities as a social norm.

Following the Jerusalem bus bombing, Israel TV showed Yasser Arafat saying in English that this was no heroic military operation, but terrorism plain and simple. By Arafat's standards this constituted a major new departure, and it undoubtedly took great political daring.

But before we rush to greet the onset of millennial peace and brotherly love, let us recall that the same Arafat continues to refer to the perpetrators of such suicide bombings as *shahidim* - martyrs - and to tolerate and even foster popular adulation for them throughout the Palestinian Authority he rules.

Much more telling than Arafat's speaking out of both sides of his mouth, however, is the fact that no other public Palestinian figures - intellectuals, writers, poets, Western-educated academics or religious leaders - have unequivocally condemned the resort to fighting by the use of human bombs. Nor has any member of the suicide bombers' families denounced the waste of the young killers' own lives.

I would like to go on record as stating my conviction that even during these recent bloody years, the overwhelming majority of Palestinians or Arabs have never killed or tortured another human being. But Arab society and accepted social norms are another matter.

And it's not merely a matter of implacable Palestinian or Arab hatred for Jews and Israelis, the

"satanic enemy." The same kind of brutality marks relationships among Arabs themselves.

In many cases, Arabs have behaved more cruelly toward their own people - as in torture, and dismemberment before killing - than to Jews.

One does not need a profound historical memory to recall that during the eight years of the intifada, young Palestinian "freedom fighters" murdered and brutally tortured many more of their fellow Palestinians than were killed by the Israeli forces.

When we look across our borders to Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, Libya and Algeria - to mention

only a few of our neighbors - we see the same intrinsic brutality in their societies. Within Israel, we continue to witness the ritual murder of Israeli Arab women by their closest male kinfolk on the merest suspicion of sexual impropriety.

It is instructive to note that B'tselem, the self-appointed leftist Israeli monitor of civil rights violations by Israeli authorities in the territories, is today in crisis as regards continuing its operations - for the reason that the Palestinian Authority will simply not tolerate such do-gooder meddling on its turf.

Israeli policy makers have ignored the brutality that is inherent in Arab society

BRUTALITY as an inherent part of Arab society is a fact of life which has been intentionally or inadvertently ignored by Israeli policy makers in the two-and-a-half years of the Oslo process.

But it is a fact that puts a serious limit on what we can expect from our Palestinian neighbors. Prime Minister Peres, driven

by the enormity of this week's outrages and by their implication for his chances in the forthcoming elections, will most likely take heroic steps to impress upon Arafat the need to fight continuing terrorism in the territories which have been given over to his control.

Arafat can do more in this respect. Of that there is no doubt. But our estimation of how much he can and will be ready to do stems from the wrong perception that we are involved in a historic conciliation process between two erstwhile enemy peoples.

All the indications of the past two-and-a-half years are that nothing could be further from the truth.

Arafat leads a significant element of Palestinian pragmatists who are out to get as much as they can from an infinitely stronger Israel. He is opposed by romantics and radicals who consider it horrendous to permit such "dishonorable" pragmatism to overshadow their continuing hostility to Israel - and these opponents enjoy widespread public support.

Both pragmatists and radicals continue to share that deep hatred of Israel. For example, since Oslo not one official Palestinian spokesman has justified the existence of the State of Israel, even though they might bow to the bitter reality. Where the pragmatists and radicals differ is how they express that hatred in day-to-day life.

Israel can reap advantages from the emergence of Arafatian pragmatism. But it would be suicidal for us to misinterpret such self-serving pragmatism as a Palestinian commitment to conciliation and peaceful relations.

It is that wrong perception - as in the mistaken decision to lift the closure on the territories last week - that has blinded so many in the Labor government and led them to place greater emphasis on the Palestinians' economic needs than on Israel's very basic need for personal security.

The writer comments on public affairs.



A people that can live together

YISRAEL MEIR LAU

AFTER the bus bombing in Jerusalem on Sunday, I visited many of the people who had been injured, including those in intensive care in the hospitals.

Sitting with the families who were enduring their long vigils in the hospital waiting rooms was, I found, harder than trying to comfort the injured in the wards.

That same day, I began to make the rounds of the bereaved families. Each visit left its mark, but there was one couple in the Katamon neighborhood that I will never forget.

When I entered their house, I found them sitting quite alone. Their only son, aged 22, had been slain in the bombing, a month before he was due to finish his military service.

The parents were Holocaust survivors. They had built their home in Jerusalem after the founding of the state, and had had no more children after this one son. They had devoted their whole lives to him.

Now they were just sitting there, their whole world collapsed around them. They hadn't even posted a death notice. "Whom should I tell?" asked the mother.

What could one say to a couple like this, who will have no one to say *Kaddish* for them? I felt like the three friends of the biblical Job. Job lost all his children and all his possessions, then found himself afflicted with boils.

In contrast to the past, I heard

like Job's friends, are still in the first week of the trauma. We are still groping around for words - yet at the same time we cannot ignore the obligation to express ourselves in some meaningful way.

After the Holocaust, I said something I have repeated after every calamity. We Jews know how to die together. The time has come for us to learn to live together. We always manage to come together in time of disaster, with no discrimination or division; what we can't seem to do is coexist in times of relative peace.

But this week, for the first time ever, we didn't just die together. We learned to live together.

no one lash out, accusing our leaders of being traitors or murderers. I sensed no hatred. Truly, we behaved more like Job's friends, who stayed and suffered together with him.

I felt this both in the hospitals I visited, and in the homes of the

shed. They became free without war. It has happened in Eastern Europe too, and elsewhere.

In this too, the Jewish people is an exception. To this day, there are those who do not recognize our right to return to our homeland.

Nevertheless, we must be optimistic.

On November 29, 1947, when the UN decided on the establishment of a Jewish state in part of the Land of Israel, all the Arab countries, both those near us and those further off, objected, denying our God-given right to our land. Seven of them made war against us.

Today there are only four countries in the region hostile to us - Iraq, Iran, Libya, and Syria - and Syria is ready for some kind of negotiation. This shows that despite everything, we are on the right road.

The more Jews make aliya, the more our enemies will understand that we have returned to the land of our fathers in order never again to be separated from it. The State of Israel, with Jerusalem as its capital, is an eternal fact that cannot be altered.

There is a verse in Exodus that says "As much as they were tortured, so did they multiply and flourish." It is my belief that this quality still characterizes the Jewish people.

The writer is Ashkenazi chief rabbi of Israel.

This week a nation trembled with pain. Yet surely it cannot be vanquished

Fatalism mixed with fear

BATYA MEDAD

Ilive in Shilo. People always ask if I'm afraid to travel. The roads are dangerous - whether it's accidents, terrorist attacks, or Arab schoolchildren throwing rocks and bricks.

Our life here is all so different from the Pollyannaish America of the 1950s in which I grew up.

To survive emotionally, I've forced myself to become fatalistic, recognizing that I have no control, that death can come from any direction.

On Monday I was standing at the hitchhiking post in French Hill, talking about this fatalistic approach with a neighbor who was also waiting for a ride. As an example of the unpredictability of life I cited the death of my friend Leah, who was found brain-dead a year ago from unknown causes.

I gave my neighbor a copy of the memorial booklet Leah's family and friends had just had printed, then turned back to the road to watch for familiar cars that could take us home.

My attention was caught by a dark-colored vehicle speeding along near the curb. I turned to my neighbor to say: "What a crazy driver! Even if he is going to Shilo, we're not getting in." Two words into the sentence I was knocked down, then felt a great weight on my feet, and heard shooting close by. I felt paralyzed. I couldn't move.

Everyone wonders how they would react if they were confronted by bullets, blood, serious injury, and the like. Just the day before, with images before our eyes of people blown to smithereens, of bodies so dismembered that the fatalities could only be calculated after counting body parts, a friend and I had candidly

admitted to each other that we probably could never manage to give an injured person first aid.

It embarrasses me to confess that when I was put to the test at French Hill, barely a day later, I was proven right.

How could the police think the French Hill driver was anything but a terrorist?

The military, who thought the car might be booby-trapped, told us to get as far away as possible. "The car is going to explode," they kept repeating. With the help of my friend, I managed to get up and we fled. I'm no hero.

DRAGGING my injured foot, not yet swollen, we walked until we could find a bus. There were soldiers coming from all directions - even jumping off the high wall onto the sidewalk - and I was terrified that after surviving the car and the shooting I would end up being accidentally killed by a soldier landing on my head.

My instincts told me to keep moving, and it was a good feeling to know that I could walk on my injured foot. But my brain told me I had to get it X-rayed. I said goodbye to my friend and took another bus, to the area of the Central Bus Station and called the emergency 101 number. Still in a state of unreality and filled with nervous energy, I hobbled the kilometer to the Magen Da-

vid Adom building.

It was there I heard the shocking news on the radio - that the police were trying to prove it wasn't a terrorist attack, just a simple accident - sure, and I'm Marilyn Monroe!

My aggravation was so pronounced that they wouldn't release me until my blood pressure had been checked. I used all my mental strength to calm myself so as to register an acceptable reading. Thank God, there were no bones broken, and my blood pressure was normal.

But now there's a new fear to add to terrorists, traffic accidents, illness, and the like.

How in heaven's name could the police ever have thought that such an attack could have been an accident? My neighbors, who saw the car plough into the people waiting at the hitching post - killing one and injuring many - were told that the police weren't interested in their eyewitness accounts.

We need to trust the police, not suspect them and their judgment.

I must go on with my life. Any change in our routine gives our enemies a victory.

After the attack, I thought I would never return to the hitching post. And riding home later with a friend who had come to fetch me, I was certain it would be empty. How could anyone have the courage to stand there ever again?

My friends and neighbors were there. We stopped the car and filled up the back seat. When my leg is strong enough to stand on, I guess I'll be there too.

The writer lives in Shilo.

SOFABEDS 20 orthopedic models and living room sets with sofa beds

DORMIC 114 Ben-Yehuda, Tel-Aviv 03-5235073

Open: 09:30 - 19:00, 16:00 - 19:00

Young Tender **LAMB** grown naturally on Galilee pastures by South African Farmers

QUALITY YOU CAN TRUST Kosher and veterinary supervision.

Freshly frozen, cut, packed and delivered to your home!

Choice Cuts: leg, shoulder, neck, chops, ribs, etc.

To order, call: Ben Saks, Moshav Kfar Kisch **06-765958**

The Light Opera Group of the Negev presents **FIDDLER ON THE ROOF** In English with Hebrew supertitles

Beer-Sheva March 17 & 18, Mofet-Hechal Hatarbut Logon: 07-421120

Haifa March 3, Haifa Auditorium Rose Bloch: 04-8251475

Netanya March 6, Hechal Hatarbut Combined Charities: 09-623477/614607

Tel Aviv March 11, Noga Theater HOB: 03-6419788/9336447 08-9461385

All performances start at 20:30 Further information: LOGON 07-421120

PICK YOUR FUTURE From 61 Career Choices

The future belongs to the trained professional, and ICS has provided the proven training that has enabled millions of men and women all over the world to prepare themselves for exciting, rewarding careers in the field of their choice. WHY NOT YOU?

You can get the complete details on the ICS course that interests you. Simply fill in the coupon below (including the number of the Career Course that interests you most) and mail the entire ad to the address shown below. We'll send you your FREE ICS Career Kit. Examine it, and then decide if the ICS way - the road to a million career success stories - is the road for you. Remember, there's no obligation, so act now.

SEND FOR FREE FACTS - NO OBLIGATION

ICS SINCE 1990 International Correspondence Schools, Dept. FJS46 Box 1900, Scranton, Pennsylvania 18501-1900 U.S.A.

CAREER DIPLOMA PROGRAMS

01 Computer Programming in BASIC	12 Interior Decorating
07 U.S. High School Diploma	18 Bookkeeping
02 Electronics	06 Secretarial
05 Hotel/Restaurant Management	03 Child Day Care
13 Professional Secretary	38 Personal Computer Specialist
35 Travel Agent	29 Police Sciences
14 Air Conditioning & Refrigeration	91 Private Security Officer
02 Art	09 Legal Secretary
50 Catering/Gourmet Cooking	55 Diesel Mechanics
29 Medical Office Assistant	94 Fitness & Nutrition
51 Fashion Merchandising	85 Drafting
33 Motorcycle Repair	260A Architecture
52 Surveying & Mapping	250C Machine Shop
22 Wildlife/Forestry Conservation	161 Engineering
47 Animal Care Specialist	41 Journalism/Short Story Writing
260B Building Trades	40 Photography
100 General Business	70 Computer-Assisted Small Business Mgmt.
16 Practical English	79 Electronics Technician
08 Legal Assistant	91 Carpentry
07 Electronics Technology	25 Firearms Repair
03 Civil Engineering Tech.	30 Floral Design
02 Mechanical Engineering Tech.	27 Personal Computer Repair
05 Electrical Engineering Tech.	53 Desktop Publishing
06 Industrial Engineering Tech.	07 TV/VCR Repair
04 Auto Mechanics	39 Medical Transcriptionist

Get FREE Information - MAIL ENTIRE AD TODAY Write the name of the one career that interests you

MR / MRS / MISS _____ AGE _____
(Please print clearly)

ADDRESS _____ POSTAL CODE _____

CITY/COUNTRY _____ PHONE _____

THE UNIVERSITY OF HAIFA
deeply mourns the passing of
BARNEY DAVID (Dusty) MILLER
a member of the Board of Governors and
a longtime friend and supporter
and extends its sincere condolences
to all the family

On the first Yahrzeit of our beloved
Rabbi Dr. LOUIS BERNSTEIN
we will gather at the Eretz Hachayim Cemetery (near Beit Shemesh)
at 9 a.m. on Monday, March 4 (13 Adar).
The Family

On the first Yahrzeit of the passing of our beloved
PEPI ELTES
We will gather for an Erev Limud in her memory
on Sunday evening, March 3, 1996, at 8 p.m.,
at Beit Shalom, 2 Shir Street (corner of 11 Graetz), Tel Aviv.
The Family

The Mesorti Movement
The Rabbinical Assembly of Israel
Congregation "Ma'ayanot"
deeply mourn the tragic deaths of
MATTHEW EISENFELD
and SARA DUKER
Students of our Beit Midrash and
The Jewish Theological Seminary of America
"May their souls be bound up in the bond of life..."
along with all the recent victims of terror in
Jerusalem and Ashkelon

The Management and Staff
of The Jerusalem Post
extend sincerest condolences to
Haim Shapiro
on the passing of his mother
LEILA SHAPIRO

With deep sorrow we announce the death of our wife,
mother and grandmother
LEILA SHAPIRO
The funeral will take place in Hollywood, Florida.
Rabbi David Shapiro
Haim and Francine Shapiro
Alex, Leora and Zvi
Judy and Stanley Saxe,
Harriet, Natalie and Neal

With great sorrow and heavy hearts we mourn
the death of our mother
MAUREEN GOULD STARR
Who passed away in Birmingham, England,
after a long illness.
Penny Starr
Fiona Starr
Carolyn Starr

To the
KAVALSKY FAMILY
Our deepest sympathy and sincerest condolences
on the sudden loss of our dear friend and colleague
LEN KAVALSKY
Leonard Sackstein, Lawrence Goodman,
and all Len's many friends at Taste of Israel.

We mourn the passing, after a brief illness,
of our devoted wife and mother
ROSA NEUFLIESS
Werner Neufless, Shavel Zion
Dalia Neufless - Barkey, Roni,
Tal and Lanny, Haifa

On the fourth anniversary of the passing of our beloved
AVRAHAM HARMAN
we will visit his graveside on Friday, March 1, 1996.
We will gather at the entrance to the
Givat Shaul cemetery at 9:30 a.m.
The family

'Russian area near Chechnya hit by air raid'

TIMOTHY HERITAGE

THE leader of Ingushetia said military helicopters launched an air strike in his southern Russian region yesterday, reviving fears that it could be sucked into conflict with Russia like neighboring Chechnya.

Only Russia has military helicopters in the region. Ingush President Ruslan Aushev's press office said combat helicopters had made three rocket attacks on the mountain village of Arshby, close to the border with Chechnya. Russia's defense ministry said it was unable to confirm the attack.

"There are wounded. One person is in a critical condition," said the Ingush statement, which was sent to news organizations.

It said the figures came from an Ingush "working group," but gave no details of which government department it worked for.

Interfax news agency quoted Aushev's press office as saying later that Arshby itself had not come under attack but an area near the village had been fired on from the direction of the nearby settlement of Bamut in Chechnya.

Russia's official Itar-Tass news agency quoted sources in Arshby as saying no rockets had hit the village.

The Ingush statement said it was practically impossible to enter the village because of bad weather and the poor state of roads, damaged by Russia's 58th Army in a five-day siege of Arshby and nearby Galashki which ended only on Monday.

The only contact with Arshby was by radio, it said.

Aushev said last week he feared fighting could spread from Chechnya to Ingushetia, a mostly agricultural region with a population of about 200,000 people.

(Reuters)

10 Indian politicians ordered arrested

NEW DELHI (AP) - A judge yesterday ordered the arrest of 10 politicians charged in a \$18-million bribery scandal, including four former cabinet ministers and the leader of India's largest opposition party.

The warrants were the latest indication of the unusually hard-hitting approach that the courts are taking in the case, and the impact it could have on a general election expected in April.

Corruption has long been prevalent at all levels of government, but this is the first scandal to embroil the top rungs of the hierarchy and all three main political parties. It is front-page news across India, and appears to have left many people hoping their country is finally prepared to fight such crimes.

Cuba warns US over new exile flotilla

HAVANA (Reuters) - Warning that it would use all necessary means to counter violations of its territory, Cuba yesterday urged the United States to stop a planned new exile foray of boats and planes near Cuba this weekend.

Havana also condemned plans for legislation in the US to toughen Washington's 34-year-old economic embargo against the island, saying it would badly set back any efforts to solve the long-standing US-Cuban dispute.

US President Bill Clinton has said he will sign the legislation as part of his protest at Cuba's shooting down of two small US private planes last Saturday.

Cuba says it downed the planes, operated by the Cuban exile group Brothers to the Rescue, in defense of its airspace and after issuing warnings. Four crew members were presumed dead.

Referring to exile plans to send

a fresh flotilla of boats and two planes near Cuba tomorrow, senior Foreign Ministry official Carlos Fernandez de Cossio told reporters the US had the legal and technical means to stop any violation of Cuban territory and should do so.

The US could use its Neutrality Act that aims at preventing provocation of another country, he said, adding that for the Washington not to take measures to prevent the planned flotilla would be irresponsible.

"The question is: 'What will the United States do?'" asked Fernandez de Cossio, head of the Foreign Ministry's North America department. "If they [the exile flotilla] come to international waters [or international airspace], they should have no difficulty... but if not, Cuba will not permit this."

"If they try to penetrate Cuban

waters or airspace, Cuba will use the necessary means," he added.

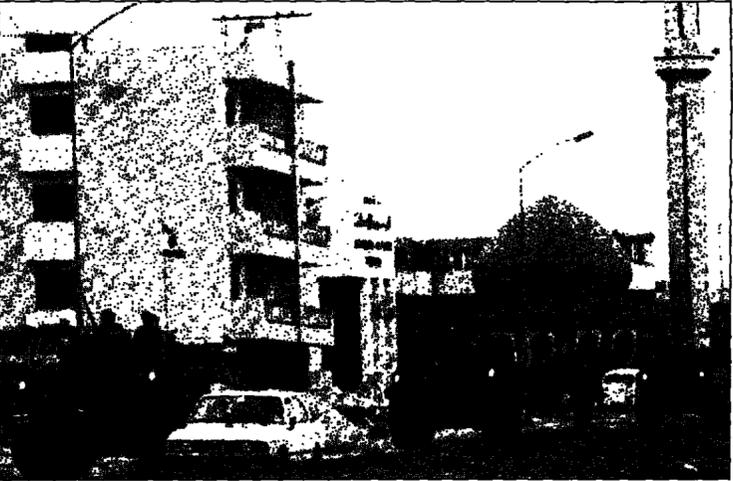
Clinton yesterday ordered the US Coast Guard to assist the exile flotilla, told the group to keep out of Havana not to interfere.

Fernandez de Cossio stressed Cuba would not accept any violation of its airspace or waters, 20 km off Cuba.

But he also indicated it would be provocative for the flotilla to travel below the 24th parallel, an area to the north of Cuba that Havana views as a restricted zone.

Asked whether the Cuban air force was on full alert for the planned flotilla, Fernandez de Cossio would say only that Cuba's armed forces had been on alert for the past 36 years.

He was referring to the 1959 revolution that brought President Fidel Castro to power.



Lebanese troops in armored vehicles patrol the road to Beirut International Airport yesterday during a nationwide imposed curfew.

Lebanon showdown raises concern about Hariri

BEIRUT (Reuters) - Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri brought in the army yesterday to impose a nationwide curfew and foil workers' protests in a showdown with labor that intensified concerns about his democratic credentials.

Under orders from Hariri, the army kept the country under curfew from 3 a.m. to 2 p.m. and arrested thousands of people to prevent a general strike and anti-government demonstrations that Hariri had banned.

The official National News Agency said troops arrested 2,500 people during the 11-hour curfew, mostly ordinary citizens breaking the curfew, and most were being freed quickly.

There were no reports of disturbances or demonstrations but

Hariri's decision to use the army brought criticism.

"Hariri with a semi-state of emergency is less than the Hariri who started as a dream, then became a hope, then a promise and then a probability," the leftist daily As-Safir said.

It sarcastically referred to the billionaire construction tycoon as a "martial law governor," and said that by using the army to prop up his government Hariri was showing that he had lost popularity and political strength since he took over in October 1992.

"This is a dictatorship disguised as a democracy," said a Beirut newspaper commentator who asked not to be identified.

"Many Lebanese say we need a dictatorship to put things in order.

And here you have a dictator, but he doesn't say he's a dictator," the commentator told Reuters.

Troops stayed on the streets after the curfew was lifted and shops and businesses remained closed in Beirut although cars began moving through the streets.

Army commander General Emile Lahoud said the army would continue to maintain national security as ordered by Hariri on Wednesday when he told the army to take charge of security for three months.

Yesterday's confrontation pitted Hariri, who is trying to rebuild Lebanon from the 1975-90 civil war, with the General Labor Confederation, which planned to defy a government ban and hold street demonstrations during the strike.

US presidential candidates spar in debate

COLUMBIA, South Carolina (AP) - The Republican presidential candidates traded barbs over social issues and taxes yesterday, and Bob Dole came under fire for his support of tax increases over the years.

"Don't malign my integrity," Dole snapped back in a nighttime debate.

Their encounter underscored that the campaign had moved into the conservative South. The candidates said the all-male Citadel should be allowed to bar women. And the Confederate flag, Pat Buchanan said, was a symbol of defiance and courage, not racism.

"My friends, if there is room in America for the fighting song of the civil rights movement 'We Shall Overcome,' then there's got to be room for Dixie as well," he said.

After the moderator played a Dole ad that labeled Buchanan an extremist, Buchanan criticized it as a sign of the "hollowness" of Dole's campaign. "It's the same name they called Barry Goldwater and Ronald Reagan," he said.

Dole was repeatedly hit for his votes for tax increases during his 35-year Senate career. He joked at one point that he was "tired of being the punching bag." But when Steve Forbes attacked him again, Dole said, "Don't malign my integrity here," a comment reminiscent of his 1988 reply to Bush to "stop lying about my record."

"It's a typical Washington game," countered Forbes.

The event, which was to be televised nationally later in the evening, was one of the more spirited clashes the candidates have had.

It was a sign of the stakes in the days ahead. South Carolina Republicans vote tomorrow, followed by primary voting in eight more states on Tuesday. Only a few candidates will survive that

balloting. In South Carolina, Dole was leading in polls published this week, with Buchanan trailing.

The four major candidates were the only ones invited to the debate. Long-shot candidate Alan Keyes wasn't asked to participate and said he would stage a hunger strike in protest.

The debate began with a feud over negative campaign ads. Lamar Alexander confronted Dole on his campaign's tenor, and scolded, "Bob, that needs to stop."

Forbes conceded, "I regret having spent so much time discussing my opponents." Buchanan agreed: "You're right - you overdid it."

"Steve Forbes has been very effective with negative advertising," said Dole. "He's the king of negative advertising."

The most heated exchange was between Forbes and Alexander, with the former Tennessee governor defending himself against charges he grew rich by using his political connections.

"Steve, you haven't learned a single thing in the whole campaign," Alexander said. "You know that's not true."

Forbes, referring to some of his negative ads, noted that he had never questioned Alexander's "cozy business deals."

"You wait just a minute," Alexander said, shouting him down. "My ethics have never been questioned."

On social issues, the candidates all sounded conservative themes, with Buchanan staking out the strictest anti-abortion stance.

IRA gives no cease-fire guarantee to Adams

LONDON (Reuters) - Leading nationalist politicians from Northern Ireland yesterday dampened hopes of an early resumption of the IRA's cease-fire after failing to win firm pledges at a secret meeting with leaders of the guerrilla group.

Gerry Adams, president of the Irish Republican Army's political wing, Sinn Fein, and moderate nationalist John Hume said they met the IRA on Wednesday hours after Britain and Ireland unveiled plans to invite Sinn Fein to all-party peace talks on June 10 if the guerrillas silenced their guns.

Hume, the leader of the Social Democratic and Labor party, said that Adams had joined him in urging the IRA to resume its cease-fire once again, but without success.

Asked if the guerrillas would end a bombing campaign they resumed on February 9 after an 18-month truce, Hume told BBC radio: "You know what my views are."

"They [the IRA] gave me no guarantees of that nature at all."

Adams said a just political settlement to the conflict in Northern Ireland, which claimed more than 3,200 lives in 25 years, would require an end to all armed action.

"If you're saying to me, do I think that'll happen tonight or tomorrow night or the next night, I think it's most unlikely," he told BBC radio.

The IRA guerrillas, who seek an end to British rule in Northern Ireland, did not trust Britain, Adams told Irish radio.

"These people told us that they were totally skeptical and distrustful of the way the British government used and abused the 18-month cessation [cease-fire]," he said.

German spy chief quits

BONN (Reuters) - The head of Germany's foreign intelligence service quit yesterday after his spies became embroiled in scandals over secrets-for-cash and a sting operation to catch plutonium smugglers.

As head of the Federal Intelligence Service (BND), Konrad Porzner had won a reputation as a stickler for the rules who failed to keep close tabs on his staff or to keep the BND out of the firing line, particularly in the plutonium-smuggling affair.

Porzner, 61, issued a terse statement saying the head of Helmut Kohl's chancellery, Friedrich Bohl, had refused his request to move two senior BND officials or retire them.

"I have therefore asked that I should be placed in early retirement," he added.

As a career civil servant, this was in effect the only way he could resign and government spokesman Herbert Schmueling confirmed the request had been granted.

Porzner denied that his resignation was tied to the plutonium scandal.

"If the plutonium affair had played a role, then I would have quit many months ago," he told ZDF television station.

He admitted that relations with the chancellery were at times difficult, saying: "The relationship of coordinators is not easy."

An informed source who declined to be named said Porzner had asked for the removal of two senior officials whose subordinates were believed to be involved in an embezzlement scandal.

He said BND staff were being investigated for embezzling over one million marks (\$700,000) intended to buy the services of Russian officers leaving former East Germany.

The men were also believed to have sold information on the Russian military to a British secret agent - prompting Porzner to travel to London to express his annoyance.

Porzner, a long-time member of parliament for the opposition Social Democrats, had fended off rumors of his resignation since soon after Kohl appointed him in late 1990.

In an obituary announcement published in yesterday's paper, the name of Sara Duker was inadvertently misspelled.

מקדמת האוכל

NEWS IN FOCUS

Friday, March 1, 1996

The fallout: Netanyahu responds with dignity...

In their initial reactions soon after the twin blasts this week, both principal contenders for prime minister gave an incredibly politically correct performance. Under the circumstances they came across as the epitome of sober, statesmanlike demeanor.

Unlike his slain predecessor, Peres did not engage in abrasive bookkeeping, insensitively chide the shocked public for being crybabies or lash out at the opposition and accuse it of collaborating with Hamas.

Not that the opposition gave him any opportunity to rake it over the coals.

Having burnt his fingers with too fiery a reaction after last year's Dizengoff bus explosion, Binyamin Netanyahu was flawless this time.

He did not rush to the site of the smoldering bus but issued his statement from the dignified surroundings of Metzudat Ze'ev, calling for solidarity and unity. He pledged unstinting support for the government - should it adopt the necessary measures against terror.

He thus implied that these measures are not now in force, while at the same time not allowing himself to be faulted for carping comments when he was offering cooperation. It was classic political sophistication, especially as he went further and urged his party faithful to desist from demonstrating.

But if a political analyst from Mars were to descend into our ostensibly harmonious midst and conclude that this tragedy would have no quick political ramifications, he would be dead wrong.

It's something few Likud politicians like to speak of for the record lest they be accused of "dancing on blood." Yet it is quickly claimed in the Likud that this is precisely what Labor did on the eve of the 1992 elections.

when the stabbing of schoolgirl Helena Rapp in Bat Yam was openly exploited in Labor's election broadcasts. Haim Ramon's cry of "get Gaza out of Tel Aviv," has left its indelible imprint on our political culture.

The Likud now maintains that not only had Labor failed to fulfill its promise of four years ago to improve the average Israeli's personal safety - a cornerstone of the party's electoral victory - but that things have gotten hideously worse. Since the Oslo accords nearly 200 Israelis have died in terror attacks, a considerably greater number than during any comparable period since the state's independence.

"The total collapse of a government's central policy plank is certainly an elections issue and not anything that can be described as exploiting bloodshed," says Likud MK Tzahi Hanegbi, one of Netanyahu's closest lieutenants.

"When Israelis are afraid to ride a bus or drive or walk near one, something is wrong - especially when the problem is aggravated by the government's reckless gambling with the lives of its citizens and especially when the incumbents came to power on the promise to achieve precisely the reverse," Hanegbi continues.

"The government's policy lies in shambles and the prime minister promises us more of the same. Certainly it's a legitimate campaign issue."

Those who had kept their "eyes open all along could not have failed to notice the total duplicity with which Arafat is dealing with the Peres government," adds Hanegbi.

"He has violated his side of the bargain throughout. He has never made a move to hand over the most despicable of the murderers who found safe haven in his fiefdom. Terror can be reduced but

What effects may this week's terror attacks have on the election campaign? Sarah Honig reports

for that, the government must cease counting on Arafat to do its job.

"He is not threatened by Islamic fanatics but works hand in glove with them. They slaughter and he gets territorial rewards. Peace must be made with a partner who wants peace and not with a group of which only half favors peace, or a third or a quarter."

"We cannot stand helpless at the autonomy gates, unable to pursue butchers or secure intelligence. To just hope that there won't be another bus blast is an unconscionable disregard for the lives of ordinary Israelis."

BUT the problem existed prior to the Jerusalem and Ashkelon outrages, so why assume that these incidents will change opinions? The answer from Likud strate-

gists is that the latest horrors might indeed change nothing. Terror rarely alters political positions, they venture, but it does bolster prior political tendencies.

The latest bombings may simply bring back to the Likud those who in recent months proclaimed themselves undecided or floating voters. This assertion is borne out by the polls conducted on Black Sunday.

Until then, for nearly four months the polls showed a 15-20% gap in Peres's favor. Ever since the Rabin assassination Netanyahu's fortunes seemed to nosedive, apparently because heaps of mud were slung at him while Peres was enjoying a political honeymoon.

But literally overnight Peres's lead seems to have been erased. A poll conducted by Mina Tzema for *Yedioth Aharonot* after the twin onslaughts essentially indicates parity with Peres at 48% and Netanyahu at 46%. Six percent were still in the "don't know" category. Her margin of error was 4%.

A careful study of the poll will show that Peres had not lost much ground. Support for Netanyahu went up by some 10% but the most dramatic aspect of the poll was the sharp drop in the numbers of those who had declared themselves undecided. More than Netanyahu gained, the undecided had really gone home or decided to blow their cover.

Around Netanyahu it was maintained even through the months of unremittingly bad polls, that the situation is much as it was on the eve of the Rabin assassination - a near tie. The polls were all off, it was estimated, because of the uncommonly high proportion of floaters.

Their theory was that these are really Likud supporters who were either swept by the post-assassination emotional tidal wave or

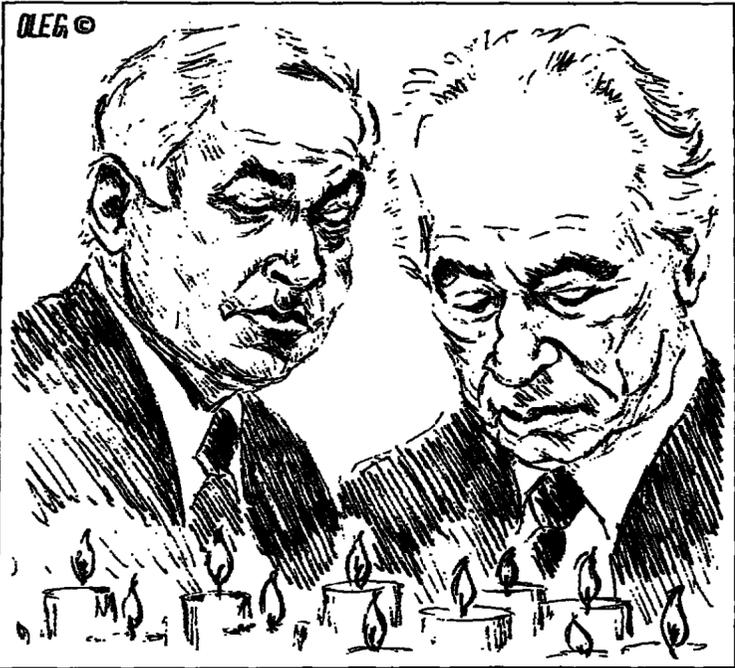
were reluctant to identify themselves in what they considered an intolerant political atmosphere.

Hence, the assessment in the Likud is that this week's terrorism merely returned people to reality. The Israeli public, according to this line of thinking, goes from shock to shock, from depression to depression. The oppressive influence of the Rabin assassination was still heavy in the air when elections were advanced. Memory of the terrorist savagery of earlier months was overshadowed by the assassination and dimmed by the relative recent calm - to no small extent due to plain bad luck for the terrorists.

"It isn't that the effect of the Rabin assassination was nullified," judges Hanegbi, "but that there is perhaps a return to a sense of proportion and the dreadful shattering of an illusory calm - so far as ordinary folk are concerned."

"As for the 'beautiful people,' I can't help wondering about the curious silence of those who were so vocal after the assassination. But when 25 innocents who hadn't hurt a fly are cut down, Avig Gefen doesn't sing, artists do not gather in vehemence, sentimental books are not published, ITV prepares no memorial cassettes, no medals are minted and no overpasses, hospitals or streets are named after the dead."

Does this mean that these non-celebrity victims will be eventually forgotten like those before them? Maybe. The shock of the past week may well fade and lose its electoral significance before the May 29 polling day. Nothing is certain in our volatile and turbulent arena, it is admitted in the Likud, though it is thought that this week's trauma just may mark a turning point which will bring the political balance back to a more undistorted and even keel.



... While Peres ponders ending open borders

PRIME Minister Shimon Peres's dream of European-style open borders between Israel and the territories could explode along with the suicide bombs that went off this week.

The last seven months - which saw no suicide bombings - led to an increase in the number of Palestinians working within the Green Line from 30,000 to 72,000, and the school of thought within the government favoring increased interaction between Israelis and Palestinians seemed to be gaining.

Yet, this week's bombing demonstrated that when push comes to shove, Peres's vision of close interaction instead of separation between Israel and the territories did not win many adherents in his own cabinet. Peres, who in previous times would have been the chief opponent, himself extended closure. Before he would have blanchered at his predecessor's policies of eliminating Palestinian jobs in favor of foreign labor. Now he approved the closure and this week his aides admitted the goal of open borders seemed more distant.

These were the first bombings since his becoming not just premier but also defense minister, and Peres did not want to be seen as weak, especially three months before an election. Officials in the Prime Minister's Office this week suddenly seemed to speak of closure as if they were converts.

In an apparent effort to gather election ammunition, they were assembling press clippings of statements against closure made by former prime minister Yitzhak Shamir while he was in power,

fearing that it would resurrect the Green Line.

Inter-activists such as Minister in the Prime Minister's Office Yossi Beilin also did not press hard for it, illustrating that the position is losing ground. Now its only other advocates are Immigration Minister Yair Tzaban and Communications Minister Shulamit Aloni (both Meretz).

On the other side, two of the most senior ministers close to Peres were very vocal in calling for a tough line. Foreign Minister Ehud Barak and Interior Minister Haim Ramon. Not coincidentally, the two have top campaign functions, and met with Peres at his office the night of the bombings this week to discuss how this issue could effect the campaign.

"The public cares about personal security," Deputy Foreign Minister Eli Dayan said, echoing a refrain of several ministers who believe reducing or eliminating the number of Palestinian laborers working in Israel can best achieve this goal.

Barak and Ramon are joined by several ministers, most notably long-term advocate Education Minister Amnon Rubinstein (Meretz). Religious Affairs Minister Shimon Sherret, Internal Security Minister Moshe Shahal - who has headed a commission on how to achieve separation - and Housing Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer, who said before the bombings that the territories should be sealed off until after the elections and Israel should compensate the Palestinians accordingly.

There are three lines of argu-

Following the latest bombings, will the prime minister abandon his vision of a New Middle East? David Makovsky reports

ment driving the pro-separation forces. First, as Barak points out, there is at least circumstantial evidence that it is effective against terror. He says that there has only been one bombing (Hadera in May 1994) when closure was imposed. Therefore, closure should be part of the anti-terrorism strategy.

The full demands were posed by IDF Chief of Staff Amnon Lipkin-Shahak to Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat at their meeting Tuesday night, which included a crackdown on Hamas and chasing down 13 individuals the IDF suspects are hardcore killers, sources say.

Shahak told one minister that privately he is convinced that Arafat knows Israel means business.

Second, apart from the security logic, there is a political logic to closure as it has popular appeal on both the left and right. It is the only time that Labor is able to outflank the Likud on the right, urging that Palestinians be kept on the other side of the fence.

Precisely for this reason, proponents say, it has educational value. Prolonged closure would make the Israeli public used to the notion that borders exist. The feeling is that the public cares less where the borders are, rather than the fact that they do in fact exist.

At Wednesday's closed-door inner cabinet meeting where it

was decided to step up security measures including more police on the seam of the Green Line, Barak made his case for extended closure and argued against those charging it was a pressure cooker which could prove counterproductive for Israeli security.

He cited poet Robert Frost who coined the phrase in his 1914 poem, *Mending Wall*, "good fences make good neighbors."

Barak said the following: "The closure has proven itself in the past. It is effective. We need to enforce it with punishment against Israeli employers who violate it [by bringing in Palestinian workers]."

"There is no pressure cooker. There was a pressure cooker when 140,000 Palestinians worked here and the Palestinian economy were smaller. Now there are fewer workers and the Palestinian economy has now grown by a third. The eight-month closure starting in March 1993 reduced the dependence [on Palestinian labor]."

"There is no alternative over time to separation. Nobody in Israel wants the alternatives to it: a binational state or apartheid or Bosnia here. This does mean that separation will be along a straight line, it will include Jordan Valley, Gush Etzion, Ma'aleh Adumim, up to Ariel."

"Separation will give us enhanced security, and allow past traumas to settle and enable [trade] cooperation to evolve

without exploitation [of workers]. This would be a separation based not on hostility but on mutual respect... Within a year and a half, we can reduce dependence to almost zero."

IN SEPARATE interviews this week, both Barak and Ramon exuded their usual confidence about pursuing this course. Ramon said, "I know no better way to deal with suicide bombers than closure. Closure can be remedied by economic measures inside the territories, while there is no economic solution to suicide bombers." Barak noted that the Palestinians would still be able to have goods enter the territories.

Yet, UN coordinator for the territories Terje Larsen remains unconvinced. Larsen stressed that he definitely understood that Israel has to take short-term measures against terrorism, but at the same time, he said bluntly that prolonged closure would "strangle Gaza and thereby increase fundamentalism and violence" and Israeli security would not be best served since extremism thrives on economic desperation.

Larsen said the economic damage done by closure is very substantial, believing that every Palestinian breadwinner in Gaza who works in Israel feeds 10 people. He said the closure costs the Palestinian economy \$3 million per day in direct and indirect

costs. If closure would be permanent, this would mean a shortfall of at least \$750 million per year. To put this in perspective, this amount is more than the 35 donor countries give annually to the PA.

Indeed, some European envoys have privately complained that the donors feel that they are offsetting the effects of the closures instead of having the money spent on infrastructure projects.

The upshot is that diplomats believe if Israel wants to stop bringing Palestinian labor, it should consider compensating the Authority or the individuals involved. Yet, Israel has not made an offer, and therefore closure can only be construed as collective punishment, they said.

The notion of closure leading to separation is gaining political ground in Israel, but it must be pointed out that it is startling that its definition has not crystallized in the three years since it was first imposed after a wave of stabbings. Three years and many closures later, it is still seen as merely reactive and an election hot-button issue, but not part of a

long-term policy.

For example, for two years, the Foreign Ministry has been issuing press statements about its plans to join the US and the Palestinians in supporting the establishment of labor-intensive industrial zones inside Palestinian areas instead of Israel, but so far nothing has happened. There have been major delays as it has been mired in bureaucracy, and ambitious plans have been scaled back due to fiscal problems.

Delays extend beyond the question of funding. After the Beit Lid bombing in January 1995, Shahal was appointed amid great fanfare to establish a commission on how to enhance separation. Yet those recommendations were ignored by the government and considered unworkable and costly.

Unless the school of thought favoring separation is able to put together a coherent position on how it can help make it happen, the notion will be seen as merely a reactive, election vote-grabber and not any more realistic than its perhaps idyllic alternative now being put on hold by Peres.

IRA gives no cease-fire guarantee Adams

German by chief quits

Published in Sara Duker Med.

NEXT YEAR in Jerusalem:
3,000 YEARS in the HISTORY of the HOLY CITY
 Introduction by Teddy Kollek. Text by Tim Dowley and Helke Goshen. PHOTOGRAPHS BY MAX-MOSHE AND HILLA JACOBY
 In this full-color, large size book of photographs, selections from the Tanach and the New Testament are interspersed with historical and explanatory text. Jerusalem - from its earliest beginnings to the age-old festivals celebrated in modern times - as portrayed in the photographs by the award-winning team of Max-Moshe and Hilla Jacoby.

Price NIS 129 + NIS 10 for mailing in Israel
 Door to door delivery (where available) add NIS 15

To: Books, The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, Jerusalem 91000
 Please send NEXT YEAR IN JERUSALEM. Enclosed is my check payable to The Jerusalem Post, or credit card details:

() Visa () ISC/MCD () Diners () AmEx

CC No. _____ Exp. _____
 Name _____ Address _____
 City _____ Code _____ ID No. _____
 Tel. (day) _____ Signature _____
 Please list gift recipients' names and addresses separately.

MARVIN
 WINDOWS & DOORS
 Super quality. U.S.A. made wooden windows & doors. Optional aluminium cladding on exterior.

Phone for free colour catalogue
 03-9341977
 06-973848
 02-9931517

DAMP?
 Because we use only the best and most advanced materials, applied by responsible and conscientious workmen, our success rate is UNMATCHED. Makes you think, doesn't it.

"DR. RETIVUT"
 Call today - be dry tomorrow
 Tel: 05-624043
 Netanya, Tel Aviv

Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport
 Office of Minister Rabbi Yehuda Amital
 The Jewish Agency for Israel

A COUNCIL FOR JEWISH EDUCATION HAS BEEN SET UP

Prof. Amnon Rubinstein - Minister of Education, Culture and Sport
 Rabbi Yehuda Amital - Minister
 Mr. Avraham Burg - Chairman of the Directorate of the Jewish Agency
 are establishing a Council for Jewish Education in Israel

The first meeting of the Council will take place in the presence of **SHIMON PERES** Prime Minister and Minister of Defense on Sunday, March 3, 1996 (12 Ader 5756), at 6 p.m. in the Reception Hall of the Prime Minister's Office Kiryat Hamemshala, Bldg. 3, Jerusalem.

Entrance by invitation only. Please bring your identity card. Estimated concluding time: 8:30 p.m.

For inquiries: Office of Minister Rabbi Yehuda Amital, Fax 02-705496

The limits to pressuring Arafat

PALESTINIAN Authority President Yasser Arafat arrived at the military compound at the Erez Checkpoint on Tuesday night with his coterie of aides. Unlike in previous meetings, his Israeli interlocutors did not wait to greet him.

Inside the meeting room, the Israeli delegation, composed of military men headed by Chief of Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Shahak, presented a list of Hamas terrorists and laid down a challenge to Arafat: crack down on Islamic terrorism or face a halt in the peace process. "You have public legitimacy," Shahak reportedly told Arafat, "and you have the means. There is no excuse outside a lack of motivation not to fight the terrorists."

The following day, Israeli officials, as well as some of these same officers, reviewed the session with Arafat and attempted to draft scenarios for forcing the PA leader to finally eliminate Islamic terrorism. Their conclusion: Arafat can be budged but apply too much pressure and he will break.

Their bottom line: There is a limit to how much Israel can pressure Arafat or the Palestinians. "We can influence him to a point," says a senior military officer. "But even having a late-night meeting with an Israeli chief of staff, as opposed to his usual meetings with ministers, could take its toll on his credibility as a leader."

Officials acknowledge a debate over the pliability of Arafat and whether Palestinian institutions should be strengthened or kept vulnerable in case Israel needs to pressure the PA.

"Israel is faced with a very genuine dilemma," says Daniel Taub, a Foreign Ministry legal adviser who helped draft all of the agreements with the Palestinians. "The Palestinians have to see the benefits of the process. Unless that happens, support for the process will erode."

"Against that, we have the problem of terror. These are two elements that occasionally come into conflict."

ON PAPER, Israel has the power to break Palestinian defiance with a flick of a switch. In a position paper, Col. Shaul Arieli, an aide to OC Central Command Maj.-Gen. Ilan Biran, listed several means of pressuring Arafat to accept its demands on fighting terrorism, including by cutting off water, electricity, telephone and Israeli medical services to the PA.

The document reached the attention of Shahak, but senior officials dismissed its options as counterproductive. Such measures, senior officials say, would destroy Arafat's authority as an independent leader and increase support for Hamas's rejectionist line.

"It would only increase terror and encourage Hamas and Islamic Jihad, which grow and develop on the basis of ignorance, poverty and suffering," says MK Ran Cohen, a member of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee who has close ties to the Palestinian leadership.

Another option is to urge the donor nations to limit financial aid to the PA until it eliminates terrorism. Foreign Minister Ehud Barak appeared to suggest this after the twin suicide bombing attacks on Sunday in which 25 people were killed.

But senior government sources reject the

The PA leader can be budged - but go too far and he'll break, Israeli officials tell Steve Rodan

idea. "It's an excellent hammer, but it might shatter the PA while fostering a much stronger opposition," one says.

The more traditional pressure tactic against Arafat has been the closure of Judea, Samaria and Gaza. This prevents about 100,000 Palestinians from entering Israel to seek work.

Officials, including senior military sources, say closure is effective for up to two weeks. Then, the measure takes its toll in rising poverty, unemployment and the creation of an atmosphere in which Palestinians, particularly the young, feel trapped in a pressure cooker.

"Closure is a long-term price for a short-term gain," the Foreign Ministry's Taub says. PA Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Ahmed Qreia (Abu Ala) agrees: "It is dangerous if you put the Palestinians in a corner."

IDF OFFICERS say Arafat is slowly losing a grip on the Palestinian bureaucracy's willingness to honor agreements with Israel. The trend is most apparent among Palestinian police, whose behavior, the sources say, has become more brazen toward IDF officers and Israelis passing through the territories.

Over the past few weeks, Brig.-Gen. Herzl Getz, head of the joint security liaison committee, has been dealing with several cases in which PA officers were said to have systematically intimidated Israeli soldiers legally patrolling through Gaza.

They included ambushes in which PA officers would stop IDF jeeps and point their sub-machine guns at the Israeli soldiers. So far, three Palestinian officers have reportedly been dismissed.

Some Israelis and Palestinians quietly agree that these days, Arafat is even less vulnerable to pressure from the government of Prime Minister Shimon Peres. The reason is the government's expectations that the Palestinian National Council will amend the Palestinian covenant in accordance with Arafat's commitment.

Palestinian analysts say they are convinced that Arafat can recruit two-thirds of the 483-member PNC to support a change in the covenant. A Foreign Ministry document submitted to Arafat contains four suggestions for doing so:

- remove all clauses that call for Israel's destruction;
- adopt a new covenant;
- pass a resolution declaring anything contrary to the Israel-PAO accords to be void;
- add an amendment to the covenant that declares as null all references in that document to Israel's destruction.

THE GOAL, shared by Arafat and Peres, is for the covenant to be changed on the eve of the Israeli elections. "Arafat knows he has to

do this," says Wadie Abu Nassar, a researcher at Tel Aviv University who has close ties to the Palestinian leadership. "But he is trying to gain concessions from the Israeli side."

Harsh Israeli pressure on the PA, including an extended closure, could shatter any hopes to amend the covenant. It's an assertion raised in government and military forums on how far to push Arafat.

"A closure could cause Arafat to say, either sincerely or falsely, that popular opinion is against changing the covenant," a senior military source says.

For Israelis, the question is what Arafat can do. Government analysts say at best he could outlaw Hamas and confiscate their weapons. He could enforce regulations that apply in most Arab countries against political activities in mosques. At one point, IDF experts on the PA thought the authority had been doing this. But in the wake of Sunday's bombings, they have expressed doubts about the effectiveness of the PA's efforts.

The minimum, government analysts say, is that Arafat could restrict Hamas gatherings, such as the one in Kalkilya last week in which militants reenacted the bombing of the Dan No. 5 bus on Tel Aviv's Dizengoff Street in 1994. This would include keeping Hamas gatherings indoors and banning press coverage.

"Why doesn't [Arafat] want to do this?" a senior military source asks. "I guess he simply doesn't want to."

TAU'S Abu Nassar agrees. He says Arafat's main interest is to maintain his so-called cease-fire agreement with Hamas.

The result is that the PA president has allowed the Islamic opposition to say what it wants as long as it doesn't openly employ violence.

"He is worried that if he pushes them too much it would destroy the agreement and prompt some of the militants to act against him personally," he says.

But Abu Nassar doesn't expect Arafat to shrug off Israeli concerns. The PA president is concerned over suggestions in the Peres government that the IDF pullout from most of Hebron with the exception of the Jewish Quarter, scheduled for later this month, be delayed.

Arafat, who was in Cairo yesterday in a meeting with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, will act on several levels. Abu Nassar says. To please Israel, he will strongly condemn terrorism and opponents of the peace process. He will limit Hamas demonstrations and probably ban them for the next few weeks.

The PA chief will also announce efforts to reorganize his security services, once again to seek Israel's approval. Palestinian sources say he has long been under pressure from leading PLO members to do this.

But true reform is where most Palestinian sources believe Arafat will draw the line. He will continue to make all decisions, particularly regarding security and finances. As Palestinians see it, it's his best insurance that Israel will be unable to deal with anybody else.

"Arafat even wants to sign the check to pay for the shoe of a soldier," a leading Palestinian close to Arafat says.

When the term 'political' replaces a sense of morality

Semantics play a tricky role in the way the bus bombings are discussed, whether by Arafat or Hamas, Jon Immanuel writes

AN attempt to avenge the assassination of Yihye Ayyash was expected when it happened, the chief responsibility for the security lapse belonged to the security forces, which should have been at least as vigilant in preventing it as they were in tracking down and eliminating the Engineer.

The two suicide bombers belonged to categories of people who are never allowed into Israel, closure or no closure. One was a three-time detainee known for his activism on behalf of Hamas, and the other a 19-year-old single male with no work permit.

So how could they get through? They were probably waved through checkpoints in their car with yellow number plates supplied by a Palestinian from Jerusalem, wearing IDF uniforms purchased for them in a Jerusalem army surplus store.

Simple? The two bombs that ripped apart more Israelis in one single operation than anything Ayyash made, according to former GSS deputy commander Gideon Ezra, downplaying reports of an "engineer No. 2." They were nothing like the bombs of Ayyash, who, he said, with some admiration, "could make a bomb out of nothing."

That's little comfort. But Ezra was thinking that if there were a successor to Ayyash it would raise questions about the wisdom of eliminating engineer No. 1, who was, at least identifiable, traceable and open to constant surveillance when he was killed.

From here to Yasser Arafat's assertion that the bombings were a joint production of Israeli and Palestinian extremists requires a leap of faith. The GSS is certainly sophisticated enough to nip such a connection. It is less geared to catching an Arab in an IDF uniform with a 20-kilo kit-bomb of explosives at a checkpoint.

ARAFAT LOOKS at who has the most to gain, then works backward. The peace process has reached a moment of crisis. To say that it cannot stand another major bomb outrage is an understatement. The re-election of a Labor government hangs in the balance.

In an explanation of his conspiracy theory made before visiting diplomats, Arafat issued a press statement quoting "official sources" Wednesday through Wafa, the Palestinian Authority news agency.

The agency asserted that 48 hours before the identities of the bombers were known, "[MK] Bebbanav Ze'evi, leader of the extremist Moledet and proponent of the transfer of Palestinians, said on Israel Television after the

operations that the perpetrators came from Hebron." It went on to note that this is where the extreme right-wing group Eyal is located, and that it "has taught jihad operations."

Arafat is clearly referring to the fact that Yigal Amir was connected to Eyal and Amir killed Rabin, so the fact that Jews kill Jews has been established. Wafa also noted an item in *Yerushalayim*, the local Jerusalem weekly, speaking of Israeli extremist contacts with Palestinian extremists.

Arafat may or may not believe this. It serves his purpose in avoiding a crackdown on Hamas, with which Arafat believes he now has a stable relationship.

The PA's arrangement with Hamas allows it complete freedom to conduct its armed opposition to the peace process as long as it does so from areas where the PA has no security authority and therefore has no duty to know what it is doing.

This is as much as to state the obvious, since other than giving attackers refuge afterwards - mercifully for Arafat, they kill themselves - there is little the PA can do to stop attacks from areas under Israeli control, unless it can prove that incitement or orders are given from Palestinian autonomous areas. But Israel is better able to monitor telephone traffic passed from the autonomous areas into areas under its control.

IF THE PA has wanted to show that Hamas was not involved in the bombings, Hamas is keen to do the same.

In the first leaflet immediately after the bombings, a group called the Cell of the Martyr Yihye Ayyash took responsibility without mentioning the names of the attackers, leaving no proof of authenticity. Neither did it mention Izzadin Kassam, the armed wing of Hamas.

Even more curious, the leaflet did not contain the coarse invective that is usual in Izzadin Kassam leaflets. The language was almost conciliatory.

"We are not killers and terrorists," it said. Its demands were limited to "a just and honorable peace" and asked "the Israeli government" - not "the terrorist Peres clique" - to "stop terrorism against Hamas and release our prisoners. Then we will reach a historic position and will take care not to shed a drop of blood on the land of Palestine."

The language was geared to appeal to the large majority of Palestinians who now favor the peace process, but wanted to avenge Ayyash's death. It appeared to be dictated by educated Hamas leaders, not gun-

men. In contrast, a Hebron leaflet circulated Wednesday and signed in the name of Hamas promised continued attacks. But it mentioned the names of the killers after they were already known, so it could not be proved to be authentic.

Could the first leaflet's conciliatory tone after such a brutal attack have been authentic? "Yes, if Hamas had not fulfilled its promise to avenge the death of Ayyash, it would have been finished politically," said a Palestinian political scientist who declined to be identified lest he appear to be justifying the attacks. He, like most Palestinians, considers Ayyash a "military leader" who had ceased his attacks. Therefore, his assassination showed poor political judgment by Israel.

THE KEY word is "political." Even the most pro-peace Palestinians are reaching a political, not a moral, agreement with Israel. Therefore attacks on Israelis are either politically wise or foolish, but not immoral. Islamic Jihad, for example, has virtually disappeared as a force in Gaza since the assassination of its leader, Fathi Shikaki, in November. A large part of the reason has been its failure to avenge his death and therefore prove itself dangerous or alive.

Three weeks ago, Palestinian police shot dead two wanted Jihad gunmen in their hideout after a tipoff, the kind of approach that Israel would like to see the Palestinian police take with Hamas gunmen. It was also a warning to Hamas.

The revenge attack was also partly a warning to the PA. Hamas wants to survive despite serious political reverses with the signing of Oslo and elections it lost.

This is the basis of PA-Hamas amity. The claim of responsibility, which mentioned Hamas, was not signed by Hamas, so it could not be accused of direct responsibility. The revenge was primarily aimed at Israel, not at the PA, like earlier direct attacks on the peace process. But it was not designed to destroy Israel: Its demands almost invited the PA to bring it into the peace process.

The PA was positively jubilant on Tuesday when the missing leaflet from Izzadin Kassam, the armed wing of Hamas, emerged. It dissociated itself from Sunday's bombings.

"The Izzadin Kassam brigades had no direct or indirect relations with the operations. We are committed to the agreement reached with the PNA. We declare our position out of our people's interest and not from fear of any side."

THE LEAFLET sounds almost too good to be true. It did not even say it has sympathy for the aims of the avengers of Ayyash. Arafat's media adviser, Nabil Abu Rudeineh, said this proved the wisdom of the PA's way of handling Hamas: "There isn't a single mosque calling the suicide bombers martyrs. There is no leaflet of responsibility issued from the areas." The Hebron leaflet appeared later, and its authenticity can also be questioned.

Abu Rudeineh's own belief - he did not mention Israeli extremists - is that some Hamas supporters "who take orders from outside" carried out the revenge bombing. He noted claims of responsibility in Beirut "which could have been done only with Syrian permission," he added.

If, as seems to be the case, revenge for Ayyash was the motive - and not continued opposition to the peace process combined with open-ended revenge for the Hebron massacre - then the leaflets actively dissociating the obvious culprits from the deed had significance.

After Oslo 2, after the elections, "Hamas believes no one can stop Oslo," said the political scientist. It wants to influence the final talks from within. It may therefore allow itself to be partially disarmed, as Israel has ordered.

Incredible as it seems, Hamas in these days is exhibiting more faith in the peace process than most Israelis.



RAMOT ARAZIM JERUSALEM
Villa for Sale/Rent
350 sq.m. built, 270 sq.m. garden, 6-9 rooms + basement for office, clinic or separate unit; swimming pool; two parking places.
Tel. 02-860862

FILIPINAS
sought for work with elderly people + Accommodation and employment permits.
Rachel. 03-7523899

RA'ANAN
RENTAL Immediate - Duplex, near Bitu School \$1,000
3 room, 2nd floor, 100 sq.m., near Schwartz \$185,000
4 room, 1st floor, 140 sq.m., Brenner St. \$218,000
5 room renovated to 4 huge rooms, central location, fully fitted \$250,000
Brand new penthouse, huge balcony, small exclusive building \$500,000
Corner cottage on 300 sq.m., 5 rooms \$350,000

TIKKUN HA'OR
For Sale - 2 Superior Properties
Superb new small building - Only 4 tenants. Quiet and exclusive street.
● Garden Apartment - 5 rooms with 120 sq.m. garden. Only \$398,000.
● Roof Apartment - 5 rooms with balcony and roof with extra room. Good value \$448,000.
Each apartment has 2 parking spaces & storeroom. Built to highest standards. Best financial guarantee.
09-901901

Philippina Available
98 years old, Hebrew/English speaker. In Israel one year. Experienced in caring for elderly
05-5603242

Hazonfim Ltd.
Has a junior position vacant, in the Export Dept.
Requirements: Age 21-25 • Reasonable Hebrew • Mother tongue English • Capable of flying • Resident of Gush Dan area
Please apply in writing to: Hazonfim Ltd., Mr. Aron Black, Fax: 03-6820172

QUALITY REAL ESTATE

CAESAREA - QUALITY OF LIFE!
For Sale in Caesarea
EXCLUSIVE! Semi-detached house, excellent location, swimming pool, air conditioning, unique carpentry. \$625,000
EYNAL REAL ESTATE'S Eilat, Cluster 10, Caesarea
Tel: 06-2610111, 050-263888 Fax: 06-261049

Teperberg Realty
Exciting New Projects: GERMAN COLONY, OLD KATAMON AND TALBETH
3 Luxurious homes, 3500 sq.m. garden & parking
Call: 050-261049

● BUY 1/2 DUNAM OF PRIME AGRICULTURAL LAND FOR \$19,500 (+ VAT).
● Add approx. \$11,000 (+ VAT) on rezoning.
● RECEIVE A LUXURIOUS HOLIDAY APARTMENT WORTH \$120,000, without paying any building costs (after rezoning).
Silad Properties Ltd. are promoting the rezoning of 21 dunam of prime agricultural land as a 5-star holiday village, nestled in the pastoral beauty of the Zichron Yaacov region. Rezoning is not automatic.
Call Silad Properties Ltd. Tel: 050-526757

CAESAREA, PARDES HANNAH/KARKUR
Got \$300,000? We'll sell you a new house & give you change!
CAESAREA
Perfectly delightful one bedroom, totally renovated garden apartment, walking distance to the beach and just a hop, skip and jump from the Country Club. Lovely kitchen, beautiful bath and quiet location. Will be sold with parking in the driveway. Air conditioned/heated. Price: \$270,000
PARDES HANNAH/KARKUR
Lovely 3 bedroom home with well-landed garden, looking for new owners. Center of Karkur. Well priced at \$200,000.
Four bedrooms, 2.5 baths, half dunam plot and less than a year old. Nice floor plan. Price: \$235,000.
Five-bedroom (75 sq.m.) with 3 rooms on over 800 sq.m. of private land. Second home can be built on the property. Price: \$225,000
KATZUR 3 room home on half dunam plot - \$130,000
ANGLO SAXON Service with a North American accent. Please phone: 06-260178 or 06-271868 for further details or information about properties from \$75,000 - \$2,500,000.

QUALITY REAL ESTATE • QUALITY FLATS • QUALITY REAL ESTATE
REAL ESTATE • QUALITY FLATS • QUALITY REAL ESTATE
QUALITY FLATS • QUALITY REAL ESTATE • QUALITY FLATS • QUALITY REAL ESTATE • QUALITY FLATS • QUALITY REAL ESTATE • QUALITY FLATS • QUALITY REAL ESTATE

Chana Kristal Realty & Management
\$341,000 Semi-detached cottage near beach, country club, golf course and synagogue.
\$1,100,000 villa + pool on spectacular wide lot.
\$2,700,000 gorgeous villa designed by top American architect. Prime location.
★ Rentals from \$800 ★
23 Hamaqal St. Cluster 9, Caesarea
06-263886 or 052-510410
Fax: 06-360212

REGISTRATION HAS BEGUN!
Camp Ariel
An Orthodox American-Style Sleep-Away Camp
RIGHT HERE IN ISRAEL
July 1 - July 28
Boys and Girls - grades 3-11
Join with hundreds of campers for the summer of your life!
• Extensive athletic and swimming programs
• Daily learning session
• Air conditioned creative arts and computer center
• Exciting, fun-filled travel days
— LIMITED SPACE —
Give us a call today!
Located at Great Washington Ashdod
Owners/Directors Reuven & Deena Angstreich Arthur & Linda (Schiff) Polyeiff
Rabbi Yonah & Mary Fuld - Educational Directors Avshalom Katz - Music Director
For information call or write - Deena
Tel: 02-669540 Fax: 02-665113 e-mail: deenang@netmedia.co.il

Tracing Missing People
NETZ 03-613 27 33
24 HOURS

WAR ON DRUGS!
CITA Institute has won 1,500 battles, just in Israel.
We offer U.R.O.D. (Ultra Rapid Opium Detoxification) as a new treatment without pain or suffering
Hot Line 03-5273616 for help and information

Political morality
a way the
rather by
el writes



The men of true mercy

Jessica Steinberg reports on the work of the haredi volunteer force that recovers human remains after terror attacks

In the aftermath of each bus bombing, we sit as a nation, eyes focused on television images, ears glued to radio broadcasts, listening and looking on in horror. We watch the police and rescue workers, faces struggling to remain impassive, as they carry out their terrible tasks of separating the living from the dead. In the background, the blackened skeleton of yet another bus, its empty seats and accordion pleats a potent reminder of how quickly tragedy can strike. And dispersed throughout the scene

are the black kipot and orange vests of the Hesed Shel Emet ("True mercy") volunteers, gathering the remains of those taken by the bomb's blast. These haredi men are fulfilling a holy act, a mitzva. Respect for the dead is one of the holiest imperatives incumbent upon the Jewish people. There is no greater deed than carrying out the rituals and customs pertaining to death. Yet whoever imagined that caring for the dead would translate into gathering body parts and skin fragments from trees and



(Top): Two volunteers gather remains at the site of the Jaffa Street attack. Above: Rabbi Gelbstein: This is what makes us a Jewish nation. (Ariel Jerozolimski; Brian Henderl)



There's no time for feelings. You work like a robot. (Ariel Jerozolimski)

A gruesome task

Moshe Klein, a 46-year-old school principal, was about to complete his tour of army reserve duty as an officer when he joined Hesed Shel Emet. Since then, he's learned the art of removing his mind from the task at hand. "In these situations, there's no time for feelings," he says. "The heart is full, but the hands are busy. I climb on ladders and with my knife in hand, scrape off flesh and blood. You separate yourself from it, you work like a robot." When Klein went to the first basement meeting in 1989, they were shown films from various bombings, footage too shocking to be shown on television. Many participants didn't return after that, remarks Klein, for if they couldn't handle the film, how could they deal with the real thing? Klein says he doesn't generally talk about his work, although on Monday, the day following the No. 18 bombing, people commented on his demeanor. "That's unusual, because I'm a good actor, but it's difficult to hide this kind of stuff," he says. "At night, in bed, that's when you're alone with your thoughts and images. You try to run from your thoughts, but it's a constant replay in front of your eyes. You can attempt to get over it, but the heart is full." - J.S.

balconies? There's no question that this gruesome task, and exalted deed, is also the most difficult. "It's a holy act," says Rabbi Elazar Gelbstein, director of Hesed Shel Emet. "God created us in his image and we must do his deeds. This is our job. It's hard and it breaks us but it must be done." Gelbstein cuts an imposing figure, tall, with bushy gray eyebrows and a full beard. He sits at his desk, which is covered with papers and an overflowing ash-tray, surrounded by stacks of files, a computer and constant interruptions from his assistants. Yet he speaks in gentle tones, and his eyes are red-rimmed as he recalls his experiences. "I remember after the 405 [Jerusalem-Tel Aviv] bus attack in 1989, I didn't talk at home for a few days," he comments, pausing for control. "When a reporter on the scene asked me how I was doing, I started crying and continued for 10 minutes. It was probably better that he asked me, rather than holding it inside." The 405 bus attack in the summer of 1989 was a turning point in the formation of Hesed Shel Emet. Originally, the task of gathering body remains had fallen to the police and other rescue organizations. That fall, the municipality turned to Gelbstein, who was active in the Jerusalem Hevra Kadisha (one of the community organizations that tend to the rituals of death) and asked him to help organize a society that would teach volunteers how to undertake the task. At the first meeting, relates Gelbstein, there were 20 or 30 people. He found them by word of mouth and through ads placed in the neighborhood newspapers. About a third came back after the first meeting, with two-thirds lost to scheduling conflicts and an understandable discomfort or fear with the job at hand. The group grew slowly over the course of a year, attending classes taught by the police, army personnel, medical staff and rabbis. The 180 volunteers are all haredim, some of whom have served in the army, as well as pacifists of varying stripes, from left-of-center to anti-settlement. As Gelbstein comments, there was a need to find what unified them. The point was, each man

had a heart, and would be doing this to help others, regardless of his political viewpoints. "We started learning, building a Torah of information on the subject," says Gelbstein. "How, why, how many... how to find it, carry it. What are the guidelines, how to gather everything and get it to the right places. How to list, photograph, who took it, where did they take it to. We did all kinds of exercises, using dolls, watching films - practice runs at the airport, at the railway station. They taught a course in Bnei Brak, at the request of Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Yisrael Meir Lau and now there are Hesed Shel Emet outlets in several cities, although Gelbstein would like to see them all united under one umbrella organization. At the No. 5 bombing on Dizengoff, the Jerusalem men worked side by side with those from Bnei Brak, some of them arriving on the scene after hearing the news on the radio. One of the requirements is that the volunteers themselves be married. The philosophy is that an unmarried male is, first and foremost, tied to his studies in the yeshiva, and not mature or responsible enough to deal with the situation. They come from a variety of occupations - rabbis, teachers, a doctor, lawyers, shopkeepers and retirees. Most of the volunteers carry their own beepers or cellular phones and Gelbstein uses these to help contact everyone. He laments the inevitably inefficient logistics of the system. Many times he simply grabs the vests and runs to the site where the others are already waiting. "We basically pick up the phones, if there's time," he explains. "But often, there's not. With Sunday's bombing, I heard about it at 7 a.m., and there wasn't one person who hadn't heard about it." When their work is done, the group tries to talk about the experience although they rarely find the time. As Gelbstein says, it's hard and they are well aware of their goals. "This is what makes us a Jewish nation, this type of experience that doesn't differentiate between us," he emphasizes. "We do it from our heart and soul. It's a hard hesed, a difficult deed, but we must overcome it because God gave us the strength."

Coping with fear

People who witness terrible events may need as much help in recovering as the injured, psychologists tell Margot Dudkevitch

Fear is a healthy reaction, a warning signal against danger, says Rina Levy, deputy director of the Jerusalem Municipality's Psychological and Educational Services. However, when horrendous incidents such as Sunday's bomb attacks occur, not everyone has the strength or ability to deal with their emotions, Levy says. "People who walked by and saw the wreckage of the bus and bodies strewn sometimes can go into shock or become paralyzed or rooted to the spot." According to Levy, others try to dismiss the horror and continue in a "business-as-usual attitude," blocking out the horrors or ignoring them. Both, says Levy, are extreme examples of the way people react in such situations. "It's like having the carpet swept out from under your feet and the feeling of losing complete control," says Dr. Bernie Stein, chief psychologist at the Education Ministry. Two of the main reactions people suffer from in traumatic situations are the feelings of helplessness, the difficulty in coping when witnessing such an event, and the sudden and acute disruption of all of one's expectations from life, says Dr. Danny Brom, clinical psychologist and research coordinator for Amcha (the national center for psychological support of survivors of the Holocaust and the second generation). "People witnessing such a shocking event often have to go through the same coping process as people who were actually injured in the blast," he says. Post-traumatic stress disorder applies to both categories, says Brom, adding that people often reenact the scene in their minds over and over again, while others may become obsessed with talking excessively or suffer from recurring dreams that cause them to stay awake in order to blot out the pictures they see in their minds. All of these symptoms, Brom stresses, are perfectly normal. The media also play a role, says Levy. Reading a newspaper can trigger off emotions, but watching television footage can have a far more shocking effect, she says. "Every day people are killed in road accidents but we still cross the roads and continue driving. However, when a bus transporting children to school crashes the whole nation is devastated."



Expressions of loss, shock, grief: (From top) A woman lights a memorial flame for a family member who died in the November 1994 Dizengoff bombing; a passerby at the scene of the Ramot Eshkol attack last August clings to her strength, a prayer book; a woman mourns for a Dizengoff victim. (Brian Henderl; Ariel Jerozolimski; Israel Sun)

DIFFERENT age groups deal with anxiety in different ways, says Levy, adding that young children need to feel secure and parents should encourage them to talk about their fears. Teachers and classroom friends tend to take over that role in school-age kids, and teenagers tend to turn to their peers. Adults express their feelings by talking to their spouses or even a fellow passenger on the bus. The main thing is to find a way to vent the feelings inside you, if not in words then perhaps by drawing, she says. "We advised Vladimir Kushnir's relatives to allow him to attend his parents' funeral," says Levy, stressing the importance for a child that age to participate. "Watching his parents' bod-

ies lowered into the ground is something concrete and helps the child to come to terms with reality and enables him to mourn." According to Brom, children have a tendency to turn a traumatic situation into a basic reality, and can suffer difficulties in trying to adapt to another reality. Parents, says Levy, often pass on their own fears to their children without realizing it, instead of guiding the child and helping him to cope. Brom and Levy both stressed the importance of allowing children to watch the television after such a tragedy occurs. By sending children to their rooms while they [parents] continue watching television, parents are teaching their children to become more secretive, says

Levy. "A child may feel he is being punished if he is sent to his room as his parents watch television. A parent should accompany him and sit with him and not leave him alone," she notes. Stein says "talk, tears and time" are all part of the normal process in releasing pent-up emotions. The public should be encouraged to come forward and seek advice and not try to overcome their feelings on their own, he says. All the psychologists agreed that the traditional Jewish mourning process, the shiva and shloshim, enable people to come to terms with death in a healthy manner. They also stressed the importance of seeking professional advice if a person feels he is unable to cope.

TODAY **PRE-PURIM**
JERUSALEM POST BOOK SALE

Books galore in English at reduced prices.

- ★ Books and Puzzles for children
- ★ Paperbacks
- ★ Gift Books
- ★ Videocassettes
- ★ Many other surprises

FRIDAY, March 1, 1996
9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
ICCY
12 Emek Refa'im, Jerusalem
Buses: No. 4, 14, 18

Ex-Syrian envoy: Assad doesn't deal

SYRIAN President Hafez Assad might not want to meet with Israelis. But Zuheir Diab is one prominent Syrian who has no problem meeting with Israeli officials and academics.

The 57-year-old Diab is about as authentic a product of the Assad regime as you can find. For decades, he served the ruling powers in Damascus. For 12 years he was a functionary in the ruling Baath Party. He also served as a newspaper editor and a member of the security forces.

But his focus has been on Israel. "I have been a student of Israeli politics for the last 25 years," Diab says in a telephone interview from his home in London. "I am in the peace camp of the Labor Party and Meretz. The welfare of Israel depends on living in peace with the Arabs."

Diab's last post in the regime was as a diplomat at the Syrian Embassy in London. In 1985 he was refused a promotion and decided to remain in Britain, where he eventually became a citizen. He has not returned to Damascus for several years but his wife resides in the Syrian capital and he remains in close touch with the regime.

"I criticize them but they forgive me," he says.

Since 1992, Diab has been in an academic dialogue with Israelis. They have included those close to both the Labor and Likud parties, including Ha'aretz military commentator Ze'ev Schiff, Joseph Alpher, Dore Gold, Moshe Maoz and Aharon Levran.

Last year, he participated in a conference hosted by Bar-Ilan University's BESA Center for Strategic Studies. He has, however, refused several other invitations to visit Israel.

Most of his Israeli interlocutors have fond memories of Diab. But despite his frank criticism of the Syrian regime, the Israelis are convinced that he faithfully represents its positions.

"He thinks he represents the Baathists better than they do in Damascus," Levran, a former researcher at Tel Aviv University's Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies says.

For his part, Diab is amused by what he terms the Israeli misunderstanding of Assad, particularly that of Prime Minister Shimon Peres. Assad, Diab says, wants peace, but does not share the prime minister's vision of a new Middle East without borders.

The first misunderstanding, Diab says, concerns Assad's negotiating style. In short, he says, the Syrian president doesn't negotiate.

"When Assad gives a concession which is procedural, it is to make the Americans happy," he says. "But it is misinterpreted by

Former diplomat Zuheir Diab says Israelis misunderstand the country's leader, Steve Rodan reports

Israeli decision-makers who think they can press for more. The more you press Assad the more he'll resist."

Bernard Lewis, the renowned American historian who has taught at Princeton University and London University, agrees.

"The Israeli demand for normalization is either unreasonable or illogical," he said in an address this week in Jerusalem sponsored by the B'nai B'rith World Center. "Normalization demands being normal. What is normal for Syria? Asking for open borders with Syria is not normalized relations. It's privileged relations. Asking for normal relations is totally unrealistic. If the Israelis get it, everybody will ask for it."

ISRAELI diplomatic sources following the talks say Assad has gone back on every one of the understandings he reached with Israel over the past eight months. It was this, they say, that brought Peres to the realization that early Israeli elections would not affect negotiations.

"As we see it, Assad can easily wait another year regardless of when we schedule elections," one diplomatic source says.

Diab says Assad has not made any promises he can't keep. Take Israel's demands for normalization with Syria which, Diab says, Assad has accepted in principle.

"The problem is the timing and how it is done," he says. "If Assad goes too fast, he tells his power bases that he is like Sadat or Mubarak. I know this is difficult for Israelis to accept. I tell the Israelis that they don't want to see you now in Damascus."

Assad's power bases, Diab says, are primarily the army and the security services. They will end up determining Assad's successor, which he hopes will be his son Bashar, a prospect Diab considers unlikely.

With 12 divisions, the Syrians have a huge military and there are divergent alliances within them. But the security forces are united by their deep hostility toward Israel.

"The whole esprit de corps in the army is Palestine," Diab says. "You can't say everything

will get better and we'll all love each other. It won't work in Syria."

Assad's other power base is the Baath Party. Diab says about 500,000 Baath functionaries control every level of Syrian bureaucracy, and they too, are united by a hatred of Zionism.

"They will immediately brand Assad as a traitor," Diab says, referring to normalization with Israel. "In all Baath resolutions, there is not one mention of normalization."

"Most of the Israelis I have spoken to think Assad is a dictator who can order anything he wants," Diab says. "Their optimism is misplaced if they think because Egypt agreed to normalization and Jordan agreed, the Syrians will as well. The Syrians are very arrogant. In their eyes, the Egyptians and Jordanians are all traitors."

Diab says after the Cairo declaration last year the Syrian military leadership urged Assad to slow down his rapprochement toward Israel. Assad apparently agreed and is using the Israeli elections to improve his negotiating posture.

But time will not change Assad's positions, Diab says. One area is borders - despite Assad's awareness that the difference between the Israeli and Syrian position on a full withdrawal from the Golan amounts to only several hundred meters.

Arms reduction is another area that Syria will not even consider, despite Peres's call for a Middle East free of weapons of mass destruction.

"There won't be arms control in the next generation," Diab says. "Anybody who talks about arms control in the Middle East is a yo-yo."

So what is Assad offering Israel?

"He can offer right now non-belligerency, recognition and respect for territorial integrity," Diab says. "This is what he calls objective requirements of peace - if you declare that you will go back to the 1967 lines. But if you want an embassy tomorrow, that's out of the question."

So, Assad will continue with the peace process without conceding anything of substance, Diab says. Despite Washington's decision to keep Syria on the list of nations that sponsor terrorism, Assad has high hopes that the US will eventually help Damascus both politically and financially while persuading Israel that Assad's current offer is the best it will obtain.

"Peres thinks he can get away with not returning to the 1967 lines," Diab says. "Assad has put his credibility on this. The only thing is that Assad thinks that the Americans will deliver in the end. He says that Clinton is a very good guy but the [American] system is pro-Zionist."



'Don't underestimate Saddam'

Iraq expert Amatzia Baram tells Michael Widlanski that the dictator still is a threat to Israel and Jordan

SADDAM Hussein's revenge this week against his two "traitorous" sons-in-law, who had revealed secrets of Iraq's weapons programs, caused many here to worry that this was not the end of the matter but the beginning of another Saddamian attack plan.

Because defectors Hussein Kamel and Saddam Kamel Hassan had been sheltered by Jordan, analysts said, it was likely that Saddam would now try to exact revenge on those who had hosted the men or benefited from their information: Jordan, Israel and the US.

After last week's execution, an Iraqi Hussein said that he would help Iraqi rebels try to

unseat Saddam, and the Jordanian monarch even welcomed a small splinter group to set up a base in Amman.

"I am pretty sure that what happened was preplanned," declared Prime Minister Abdel-Karim Kabariti, who, along with King Hussein, denounced Saddam in the strongest terms.

Some American and Israeli analysts said that Saddam might then try to destabilize Jordan across their common border or even to contribute to acts of terrorism and assassination.

If that happened, they said, Iraq, which defended Jordan from Syrian threats in 1970, might then find itself in a confrontation with Saddam again.

What would this mean for Israel: more terror, aid to Hamas or even the launching of Scuds?

One of Israel's top experts on Iraq, Prof. Amatzia Baram, said in an interview this week with the Post that he thought the fears were exaggerated, although it was best not to underestimate Saddam's abilities or his hatreds.

"IT DOESN'T endanger the king, but it all depends what the king does," said Baram, chairman of the Middle Eastern history department at Haifa University.

"If [King Hussein] plays it cool and it does not escalate, then Saddam got everything he wants [the execution of his defectors],

and he doesn't want anything from King Hussein.

"You have to be careful about not provoking Saddam too much. If I were in the king's shoes, I would have said the same thing. I think the king had to say what he said."

Going beyond the harsh rhetoric and organizing activities against Saddam would be a different order of "provocation" in the eyes of the sadistic Iraqi dictator.

"Still, Saddam needs the king a lot more than the king needs him," said Baram, noting Saddam's pragmatic analysis would have to include the fact that 80% of Iraq's foreign currency comes via Jordan, which purchases 70,000 barrels per day of oil.

This was about 80% of Iraqi petroleum production, and an Iraqi-Jordanian crisis would necessarily mean that Saddam was "cutting off his nose to spite his face."

"Of course it's mutual dependence, but it's clear who needs more," said Baram.

"Remember, every time an Iraqi diplomat goes abroad, he has to go via Jordan. Their whole link with the outside world is through Jordan. That's very important for the Iraqi elite.

"JORDAN," BARAM continued, "needs to sell industrial products to Iraq. About 70% of Jordan's industrial output is sold to Iraq.

That's worth about \$250 million to \$300m."

Baram warned that King Hussein should be careful about his encouragement of Iraqi opposition groups.

"The king has now allowed an opposition group to be positioned on Jordanian territory; that's a limited declaration of war."

Baram said King Hussein would probably not have been so bold if he had not been assured US and Israeli protection.

He said open Iraqi-Jordanian border strife was not likely, but assassination attempts could not be ruled out if the king continued to escalate anti-Saddam policies. "The risk right now is limited," he said.

Should Israelis worry? "We cannot defend the king against assassins and demonstrations, but we can defend him against Iraqi attacks. I think he counts on us a lot.

"I think the danger of Scuds is very slight, and [Iraq] would pay a very heavy price, although there is no sure thing in this area.

"The UN knows that [Saddam] has six missiles. He may have a few more, but they're rusty. He still has some teeth: some missiles and some planes.

"Our Defense Ministry does not believe he has any missile launchers, but I say he may still have the ability to produce them," cautioned Baram.

Asked about the fate of the two senior Iraqi defectors - about which there is some mystery - Baram said: "It's very likely that the moment they crossed the border they were apprehended and interrogated, and [Saddam] was there, and then he concocted this story about their family killing them."

FOR HOME OWNERS CAPITALIZATION CAMPAIGN



CAPITALIZATION!

The Israel Lands Administration is launching a capitalization* campaign for home owners who are required to pay a ground rent. The campaign will allow them to capitalize their lease contract under exceptionally favorable conditions.

* Capitalization - discharging the sum total of future payments in a lump sum.

A personal letter with detailed explanations will be sent to all those eligible to take part in the campaign.

Reception hours: Sunday - Thursday, 8 a.m.-6 p.m.; Friday, 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

Call today for details: Jerusalem - Tel. 02-242177, Fax. 02-242310; Ashkelon - Tel. 07-713034; Tel Aviv And Central Region - Tel. 03-5626630, 03-5610131, Fax. 03-5626493; Netanya - Tel. 09-822678, Fax. 09-823903; Rehovot - Tel. 08-9459013, Fax. 08-9459014; Haifa - Tel. 04-8689407, Fax. 04-8664220; Kiryat Bialik - Tel. 04-8710868, Fax. 04-8700187; BeerSheva - Tel. 07-234449, Fax. 07-234461; Nazareth - Tel. 06-468882, Fax. 06-468810; Judea And Samaria Civil Administration - Tel. 02-9977748, 02-9977786, Fax. 02-9977770.



Israel Lands Administration

ADVANTAGES!

- ✓ 60% discount when paying during the campaign.
- ✓ Exemption from annual ground rent - until the end of the present leasing period and for an additional 49 years.
- ✓ Exemption from payment of "consent fee" when transferring rights.

EASY PAYMENT!

Because of the substantial sums involved, the Israel Lands Administration is offering several payment options, in addition to the discount granted within the framework of the campaign.

- A 2.5% discount when paying in cash.
- Three equal, interest-free, unlinked shekel payments - at the Postal Bank.
- 12 payments, with interest and linkage - at the Postal Bank.
- 12 payments, with standing bank order.

Your personal payment booklet includes the last date of payment, after which date interest will be charged.

Craftspeople Silversmiths Artists Publishers Collectors Galleries

If you make or deal in Judaica, you'll want to advertise in our upcoming special feature section on the bi-annual

JUDAICA FAIR

The special feature will be published in The Jerusalem Post on May 3, 1996. It will also be published in our International Edition during April 1996.

For information contact: MYRA DROMI Tel. 02-315642; 315608, 439088 Fax. 02-388408 or 413636

CREDIT CARD HOLDERS! FAX OR PHONE YOUR ADS IN.

TEL AVIV: Fax. 03-6390-277, Tel. 03-6390-333

JERUSALEM: Fax. 02-388-408, Tel. 02-315-608

Beverly's Books 3000 SF & Fantasy Books 3000 Mysteries & Thrillers 3000 Novels & Fiction and much, much more! We do mail orders! 2nd Floor Balcony, Beit Hakranot, 18 Herzl St., Haifa. Tel. 04-8664810

Attention Americans! Videotape Conversion & Copying American ↔ Israeli Multi system and all formats. Finest professional equipment. Radio Kol Studio 12 Shamal St., 02-231390

Eilat hasn't quite made up its mind yet

A street survey of Eilat residents finds them as undecided as the rest of the nation on how to vote, Abraham Rabinovich writes

WITH the perspective provided by distance from the rest of Israel and a virtually extra-territorial mindset, residents of Eilat looking toward the upcoming elections present a clear picture — of confusion.

"Every day people who have supported Likud and Tsomet are seesawing," says the man behind the counter in the Jerusalem Souvenir shop, who prefers to remain nameless. "Every day people change their minds, especially if there are terrorist acts like this week."

Almost all of the dozen Eilatist buttonholed in a random survey said they had not yet decided for whom to vote even though they all expressed strong political opinions. Despite the seeming ambiguity, however, the impression that emerges from this traditionally Likud-leaning outpost is that the parameters of the political debate in Israel have shifted markedly leftward. Almost all the normally right-wing voters inter-

viewed had clearly internalized the peace process and come to accept it not only as unavoidable but desirable. The seesawing is not about whether the process should go forward, but about which of the major parties should be entrusted with the task.

"I've always voted Likud," says David Assean, 29, behind the counter of his family's laundromat. "but I've moderated my

'We all used to be more right wing because the situation was different... Even the left was more right.'

views since the murder of Yitzhak Rabin. That doesn't mean I'm going to vote Labor. I still don't know how I'm going to vote. Both the right and left want peace. There's no other way. We were in a situation where we had a

war every 10 years and we had to put an end to that. It's only a matter of which road to take."

The peace arrived at with Jordan is significant for Assean. "I was born in Eilat and I always wondered what Eilat would look like from Agaba. Now I've been there and seen it." Peace with the Palestinians, he understands, will almost certainly be less idyllic. "I don't believe we'll have real peace with the Palestinians but I want to give it a chance."

Romy David, a saleswoman in a bakery, says she had intended to vote for Likud until the murder of Rabin. "That was the most disgusting thing that ever happened in this country." She will not vote for Likud's Binjamin Netanyahu, she says. "because I don't think he wants peace." While true peace with the Palestinians is unlikely,

she says, "anything is better than war." However, she says she won't decide for whom to vote until close to election day. "I want to hear what everyone has to say."

The bakery owner, Robi Vishniak, was a Tsomet voter likewise cast into uncertain political orbit by the dramatic events of the past two years. "We all used to be more right wing because the situation was different," he says. "Even the left was more right."

He says he would have voted this time for Rabin, but finds it difficult to vote for Shimon Peres. "He's not credible." As for Netanyahu, "he's not ripe." In the end, though, he will have to make a choice between the two. "It's the man that's important, not the platform."

Dilemma is not only the province of the right-wing. Noam,

a solid-looking citizen in his forties who declined to otherwise be identified, says he has always voted Labor but is not sure how he will vote this time. "I'm debating between the peace process and security. We've got to move forward in the process but in a more deliberate way. I think we're running too fast. We must pause at every step and examine how the Palestinians are honoring their commitments before we take the next step. We're not doing that." Might he vote this time for Likud? "It's reasonable to assume that I won't vote for the right but I don't know."

It was clear just from looking at Mordechai Ben-Lulu as he emerged from a grocery that the black-garbed young follower of Shas would be spared soul-searching on election day.

"Whatever Rabbi Ovadia says, we will do," he says of Shas leader Ovadia Yosef. What about his own political views? "I don't want a Palestinian state but I'm willing to give up the West Bank for peace," says Ben-Lulu, who heads a Shas yeshiva in Eilat. "I'm against coming down from the Golan because that will only bring war closer."

HEADING NORTH from the Taba crossing point on the

'Every day people change their minds, especially if there are terrorist acts like this week.'

Egyptian border, local Egged bus driver Yitzhak Cohen is engaged in political grousing with one of the passengers behind him, apparently a long-time acquaintance. "First of all, the state of Israel has to decide what it wants," says

Cohen. "We are all the time reacting to events. We never decide what kind of state we want, what borders, what are our war aims. I don't care if they decide that half the country will go to the Jews, or that the Palestinians get three-quarters or that the Jews get it all. But decide and be tough about it."

Cohen, 62, says he has always voted for the right. "The problem is that none of the right-wing parties now have my trust."

"I'm for peace but at the cheapest price we can get it," says Cohen, as he gives change to three tourists. "The right will make peace too but maybe for a cheaper price."

The problem, he says, is that people are interested only in obtaining "villas and Mitsubishi's" and the country no longer interests them. "That's why the Arabs are screwing us because they do want a state." As his interlocutor descended from the bus Cohen shouted an encouraging farewell. "The Arabs will also be wanting villas and Mitsubishi's."

Will this be the shortest bridge ever built?

THE WEEK THAT WAS
MICHAL YUDELMAN

FEW believed it could last. That subdued air of unity maintained by both coalition and opposition immediately after the devastating terrorist attacks would surely give way to renewed campaign hostilities.

Nonetheless, politicians from both sides admitted that the atmosphere of unity, no matter how frail or contrived, did help to maintain some national sanity while the bereaved mourned and the rest of the country avoided quarrels and street brawls.

As the thinking by Likud leader Binjamin Netanyahu, with support from Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert, for the most part kept politics out of the tragedy, winning Bibi rare praise from coalition leaders and some points in the public opinion polls.

Knesset members on both sides noted that Bibi's order to his people to hold fire against the government during the funerals, not to hold demonstrations and not to disturb Prime Minister Shimon Peres's Knesset speech, had the desired effect.

Abandoning his former practice of shooting from the hip at any available television camera, Bibi emerged dignified and statesman-like. And Peres was in general spared the kind of enraged onslaughts we had seen after past terror attacks.

The public too got the message and their mature reaction was more like that of the people of London or Paris facing terrorist attack than we are used to seeing in Israel.

Equally important, the leaders' responsible behavior instantly deflated the sails of would-be rabble-rousers.

Some were there as usual, even before the bodies were removed, screaming hatred and incitement. But this time, it just never got off the ground.

That day Bibi arrived at Metzudat Ze'ev in the same car as MK Dan Meridor. Likud wags explained this had a moderating effect on him.



David Levy: Off to the huppa with Bibi? (Media Images)

MATCHMAKER, MATCHMAKER
Up to this week suggestions that David Levy might return to the Likud would raise only scoffs and derision in both camps.

Levy's people said, why should he, if he can run his own party and then become a minister in either a Labor or a Likud coalition on his own terms. How could he commit to the Likud after so recently saying it has no ideology, no alternative and no heritage?

Then there is Levy's personal hostility to Bibi — a much stronger factor than any ideological differences. The two simply could not work together, right?

On Bibi's side, the contempt was hardly any less. Those in the know said he had absolutely no intention of enticing the quarrelsome Levy back to Likud — not after all the trouble he had getting rid of him.

Bibi had also called Levy "a Likud senior surrounded by a criminal gang" during the "sizzling cassette" affair and continues to see him mainly as a nuisance. If allowed to return to Likud, there would be no end to his demands.

Besides, Bibi was not at all fazed by the two or three mandates he might lose to Levy — his pollsters predicted no more than that — since he hoped to replace them by the same number from the ethnic Russians.

Yet this week the experts were confounded by swirling rumors that Bibi was intensely wooing Levy via the good offices of that renowned matchmaker Arik Sharon.

All had changed. No price was too great. Number two on the Likud list, David? No problem. Seven reserved Knesset slots? Sure, Dave. Foreign minister in my next government? For you, my boy, why not? Anything else? Just name it. My door is always open.

So it's Levy and Bibi for the huppa: purr wedding lovers. Just as soon as the terms of the ketuba are set. Er, could we have that in writing, please?

POLL POWER
So what could have changed Levy's mind just days after launching his new party?

Gesher (bridge)? Bridge to Bibi? What happened to all that lofty Bridge between rich and poor, religious and secular, left and right, etc., etc., which Levy said last week is absolutely crucial to Israeli society?

All gone — a footnote, perhaps, in the Guinness Book of Records as the shortest bridge ever built. In that final analysis, so dear to a politician's heart, seven Knesset seats in the hand are worth 10 in the bush.

Then there are the daydreams — foreign minister again, triumphant return to Likud as a winner, Bibi on his knees. No sunrise of burning ideology over a new bridge could match such a warm glow.

On the day of the terrorist attacks in Jerusalem and Ashkelon, instant polls indicated a dramatic surge in Bibi's direction. Now if the polls indeed showed Bibi running neck and neck with Peres, and Levy's joining Likud would boost Bibi even further, that is a difference that casts a new light on everything.

And for Bibi, a pact with Levy would remove the last obstacle to a one-round showdown against Peres for prime minister, not to mention strengthening both the Likud and his status with Likudniks.

There remains only the small matter of rumbles and grumbles in the Likud.

Slot number two for Levy and seven realistic places on the Likud list leaves incumbent Likud MKs — who have already been nudged down the list to accommodate Rafal and the seven Tsomet dwarfs — only 25 realistic places.

"If you want to be prime minister, this is the price," Sharon told Bibi.

Maybe one small price for a Bibi, but one giant leap into oblivion for many loyal Likudniks.

Then there are Tsomet's strong objections to making changes in a done deal — reshuffling its placements to make room for Levy's lot.

Rafal thinks he has made enough sacrifices — he abandoned his bid for prime minister and slipped down from number two to three on the list.

Does anyone hear a cry of "enough already"?

WE ARE COMMITTED



Dr. Lydia Belotcky, Jerusalem. Doctor of Law, Tel Aviv University, New Immigrant, member of Secretariat



Yeshay Ben Tzedek, Kibbutz Gilgal, Jordan Valley. Member of Secretariat



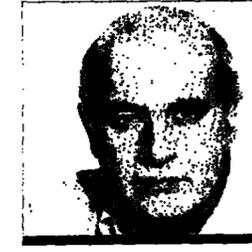
Prof. Abraham Diskin, Jerusalem. Political Scientist, Jerusalem. Chairman of Political Committee



Prof. Elisha Haas, Rehovot. Dept. of Life Sciences, Bar Ilan University. Member of Secretariat



Yehudah Harell, Kibbutz Marom Golan, Ramat Hagolan. Founder of The Third Way. Chairman of Information Dept.



M. K. Brig-Gen. (Res.) Avigdor Kahalani, Tel Aviv. Chairman of The Third Way



Brig-Gen. (Res.) Uzi Keren, Kibbutz Ein Gev. Leader in struggle against abandoning the Golan.



Col. (Res.) Yehuda Levy, Moshav Aseret. President and Publisher of The Jerusalem Post. Member of Directorate



Prof. Alex Lubotzky, Efrat. Chairman of Department of Mathematics, Hebrew University. Chairman of Secretariat



Amira Perlov, Kfar Adumim. Educator, Member of Secretariat



Maj-Gen. (Res.) Avraham Rotem, Hod Hasharon. Head of Organizational Dept.



M. K. Emanuel Zisman, Jerusalem. Chairman of Knesset Committee on Aliya and Absorption. Member of Directorate

TO ABIDE BY THE FOLLOWING PRINCIPLES:

- The historic right of the Jewish people to the Land of Israel.
- Opposition to rule over another people.
- Support of the Peace Process, with willingness to compromise.
- That in every peace agreement with Syria, the settlements, water sources, and a security line in the Golan will remain under Israeli rule.
- To insist upon peace arrangements which will assure Israel's security and settlement presence in the Jordan Valley, the northern Dead Sea, Gush Etzion, on the Golan Heights, around Jerusalem, and in those settlement blocs necessary for security that are not densely settled by Arabs.
- Greater Jerusalem to remain under Israeli rule.
- To strengthen and thicken the settlements along the Eastern border: the Jordan Valley, northern Dead Sea, the Arava and the Golan Heights.
- A Jewish-Zionist state, but not by means of religious legislation.
- Free economy, with concern for the disadvantaged.

THE THIRD WAY

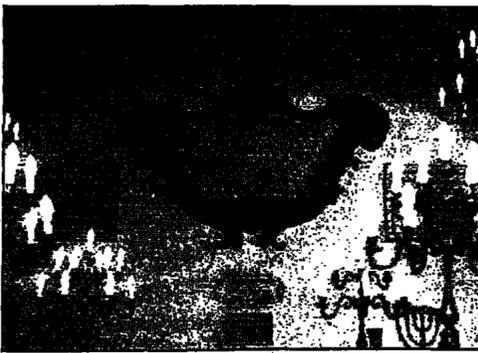
To support the Third Way, become a member, or participate in its activities, call Teleclal: 03-6388984

CREDIT CARD OLDERS! FAX YOUR PHONE ADS IN. TEL AVIV: 03-4390-277. TEL 03-6390-333. JERUSALEM: 02-388-406. TEL 02-315-608.

Union Americans... Tel 02-315-608

'Little Jerusalem' in Tuscany

Karen Burshtein discovers the rich Jewish history of an isolated Italian village



Jewish schools, a university, libraries and a cemetery. In her 1981 book *The Classic Cuisine of the Italian Jews*, (Giro Press, NY) Edda Servi-Machlin, daughter of the village's last rabbi, relates how Hebrew words entered the Pitiglianese dialect. The word *Adonai* is heard in folk songs, and the less lofty *zuna* (whore) became part of the local slang. Moreover, Jewish recipes made their way into the local cuisine.

The synagogue was built in 1598. Photos of the original design helped the 10-year reconstruction project which was financed by the municipality. The structure's facade is built in the Renaissance style. The interior is pristine white with fine gold baroque ornamentation and engravings, and elaborate wood carvings. A large blue-and-gold ceiling mural depicts the Ten Commandments.

At the inauguration, Italy's Chief Rabbi, Elio Toaff, installed the ark's new Torah scroll and curtain. (The two original ark curtains are now in Karmiel and in New York's Jewish Museum). At the entrance, plaques in Hebrew and Italian commemorating the visits to the synagogue of the grand dukes of Tuscany in the 17th and 18th centuries, hang once again.

The synagogue will serve as a Jewish museum. To visit, call the municipality first.

Also recently restored is the Jewish cemetery at the bottom of the village. Its tombs are dug into the tufa rock and its ornate tombstones date back 400 years. It can be visited by descending a new cypress-lined marble staircase built over the original terraced terrain.

Pitigliano is known for the quality of its wine. The local winery bottles two kosher wines, a sweet red and a dry white called *Piccola Gerusalemme*.

The bottles' labels feature a picture of the synagogue and a resumé of the village's Jewish history. SITUATED IN a remote corner of the region, Pitigliano is that rarest of things—a lovely Tuscan village not besieged by tourists and unhampered by modernization. Give or take the odd Vespa motor scooter leaning against the medieval walls, it is easy to get the feeling, as you walk about the tranquil village, that you are seeing it much as it was in the 16th

century. In addition to its unique Jewish history, Pitigliano has much else to offer.

Like much of southern Tuscany, Pitigliano has unearthed its Etruscan heritage. Etruscan burial sites were discovered outside the town's walls and artifacts are on display at the new Archeological Museum.

It is also worth visiting the Etruscan tombs, many of which are used as storehouses for Pitigliano's wine and first-rate olive oil.

The main square, Piazza Garibaldi, is a good place from which to start exploring the village and its clustered medieval houses wedged against the cliffs. At the edge of the village, the view is dramatic. And look out for the spectacular aqueduct.

If you are lucky, shops might stock the Pitiglianese specialty, *billo*—a "ham" actually made from turkey, and an example of the Jewish influence on Pitiglianese cuisine.

Sample the *billo* as you explore the maze of narrow streets and small squares that make up the Jewish quarter.

Most of Pitigliano's Jews survived the Holocaust (many were hidden by families in the surrounding countryside), but in the 1950s the majority of the community left for the big cities. According to Servi-Machlin, today there are only three Jewish families left.

Servi-Machlin bemoans the reopening of the synagogue for what she sees as merely the town's profit. "What is the point of reconstructing a synagogue in a town which has no Jews left?" she asks, adding that the municipality's project risks turning Pitigliano into a "Jewish theme park."

Municipality spokesman Angelo Mazzi disagrees: "Pitigliano's Jewish history cannot be separated from Pitigliano's history as a whole. We rebuilt the synagogue in order not to forget the past."

And Jarach Bedarica, one of Pitigliano's few remaining Jews, says, "In many countries in Europe with once thriving Jewish populations the empty synagogues are being turned into everything from laundromats to billiard halls. If, sadly, the human heritage is gone and we can preserve the historical heritage, we should."



A visitor takes advantage of Ein Yael's hands-on approach with a little foot action.

'Living museum' allows tourists to get into the grit

SEE IT HERE
HAIM SHAPIRO

IN Yael, once an isolated and remote archeological excavation and "living museum," now seems as if it is about to be swallowed up by Jerusalem as the city expands.

The site is located on what is now the temporary bypass road to Gush Etzion, only a few minutes from the Jerusalem Mall and overlooking the Jewish Museum. The site is a vast stretch of new housing. Road signs from the mall direct drivers to both the bypass road and Ein Yael.

Although the signs pointing to Ein Yael all identify it as a living museum, it is also an archeological site which would be a major attraction anywhere other than a place like Jerusalem.

Gershon Edelstein, the archeologist who excavated the area and founded the museum, explains that a small but steady spring supplies water all year around. Although the site was inhabited for thousands of years, the most impressive remains are those of a Roman villa, probably the residence of the overseer of the farm, established following the suppression of Bar Kochba's revolt.

In the impressive triclinium, or dining room, there is a well-preserved mosaic with the face of Tethis, the sea goddess, surrounded by fish and flanked by two Medusa heads. In the center of the mosaic is a fountain, fed by the waters of the spring, which then flowed down to the farm's irrigation channels.

There are two bathhouses, one in the villa itself, apparently for the owner and his guests, and a second one further down the hill, perhaps for the Roman guards who supervised the work of the slaves. In the second bathhouse, there is a considerable section of preserved wall fresco. There is even a large ornate mosaic "Star of David" although Edelstein is quick to point out that in Roman times this was only a geometric decoration with no Jewish connotation.

Just a short way downhill from the villa is an area where those inspired by the mosaics above can try to work in this medium. The mosaics studio is just one of a series of practical workshops where children and adults alike can try a hands-on approach to ancient crafts.

Ein Yael has even had a visit from a group of Native Americans who came to teach their own traditional crafts. Edelstein hopes that there will be a yearly visit by a group from abroad.

Visitors can start, perhaps, with the most ancient of these crafts, basket-weaving, which Edelstein says is the oldest craft known to man. They can help with the farming, on ancient terraces, or participate in a building project. Other available crafts are weaving and pottery-making. The ceramic production is especially impressive, with a series of troughs in which the mud is refined to become fine clay.

For those who come in the fall, there is a working oil press and a wine press, what Edelstein calls "practical archeology." Unless you have actually stomped on the grapes, he says, you cannot understand the feelings of people who lived thousands of years ago.

However, he admits that although the farm has actually produced olive oil, it has as yet not made any wine. The process is too complex, he admits, adding that even in the Talmud there are discussions about what one is to do when wine goes bad.

Unfortunately, like other similar establishments throughout the country, Ein Yael is better equipped to handle groups than random individual visitors. However, the site is open to the public on Shabbat from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and will also be open to the public throughout the intermediate days of Pesach during the same hours. There is a NIS 5 entrance fee, with an additional charge of NIS 8 for participation in any of the workshops.

For information, tel. 02-413257/

PERCHED high atop a mass of red volcanic rock in southern Tuscany, overlooking three valleys, the village of Pitigliano seems to burst from the rock on which it is built. Newly painted signs on the winding roads leading up to the village point the way to Pitigliano's synagogue, its subterranean matza bakery and kosher winery.

For close to 400 years, this isolated village had a Jewish community so prominent and vibrant that it was known as *piccola Gerusalemme*, Little Jerusalem. The road signs are part of a new campaign by the municipality to promote that Jewish heritage. Pitigliano has recently reconstructed its beautiful synagogue, which had lain in ruins since World War II.

The reconstructed synagogue was inaugurated in a moving ceremony last spring. In the 16th century Italian Jews began to escape from papal discrimination by crossing the Tuscan border. Before long Pitigliano became known as a city of refuge. Local historian Giuseppe Celesia, author of *The Jews in Pitigliano*, relates that the first Jews to settle in the village were a doctor, David de Pomi, in 1555, and a moneylender in 1561.

In 1649, pope Innocent X ordered the destruction of the city of Castro, a Jewish stronghold, and the number of Jews seeking refuge in Pitigliano rose significantly. Eventually more than 10 percent of the village's population was Jewish. (The proportion of Jews in Italy is less than one in 1,000.)

According to Celesia: "The Jews of Pitigliano lived for the most part in a climate of liberty and tolerance and were highly integrated into the local population."

Remnants of Pitigliano's once-vibrant Jewish community still abound. Top, the interior of a synagogue, which boasts a sign commemorating a visit by grand dukes of Tuscany; the Jewish cemetery at the foot of Pitigliano. (Karen Burshtein)

doctors, factory workers, bankers, farmers, merchants and teachers.

The community retained its Jewish heritage. In addition to the matza bakery, it boasted

British Airways offers new fare for those with wanderlust

BRITISH Airways has a round-the-world fare of \$2,500 from Israel, with connections available on other airlines, including Qantas, USAir and Air Pacific.

The fare is good for 14 days to a year, with six free stopovers, one of which must be in Australia. There is an added fee for additional

stopovers. For business class the ticket is \$3,599 and for first class it is \$4,999.

A JULY special of a week in Mallorca is available from Aviation Links from \$735, including airfare and hotel with breakfast. A similar package to Tenerife starts at \$799.

TRAVEL TIPS
HAIM SHAPIRO

AIR FRANCE has unveiled new, more comfortable seats for its first and business classes on long routes. The seats are virtually identical, but the first-class seat stretches out a full 180 degrees, while in business class passengers can achieve a 127-degree tilt. The airline has also abolished seated smoking sections on long routes, replacing them with a buffet bar for smokers in first and business class and an equivalent in tourist class. Unfortunately, these and other innovations are not available

on the airline's flights from Israel.

TRAVELERS WHO who have trouble finding their suitcases at airports can order a personalized luggage strap from Sun Valley Products in Herzliya.

The adjustable elastic strap, with the passenger's name in white woven repeatedly into the red-and-blue webbing, comes with a lock, key, and address tag. It costs NIS 80 and takes 28 days to prepare. For information, Tel. 09-558153.

A GUIDE for the car-less visitor to the United Kingdom. *Getting About Britain*, has been published

by the British Tourist Authority. The guide, which contains information about schedules, fares, journey times, and service levels for intercity routes, ferries and air links, is available free from BTA offices.

FROM MARCH, the Allalouf shipping company is to run a weekly car ferry, the Nissos Kypros, between Haifa, Limassol and Piraeus, with facilities for cars, both cabin and deck accommodation and a 24-hour self-service restaurant. A one-way deck-class fare to Cyprus is \$53.

OMNIWORLD, which specializes in travel to France, represents three economy-rate hotel chains. In the Balladun group, the rate in the Loire valley is FF.145 per person, a Climat de France hotel in Bordeaux charges FF.180, and the Relais Bleus hotel in Nice is FF.200.

FOR TRAVELERS who want to have local currency when they arrive in a country, ISSTA has begun to offer money-changing facilities at its Tel Aviv office. The agency, which specializes in travel for students and young people, is planning to open additional currency exchanges in its other offices.

LITN
Specialty Minerals Israel Ltd., a subsidiary of Mineral Technologies Inc., a US-based company with business in over 40 countries world-wide, is starting up its 41st plant to be located at the American Israeli Paper Mill in Hadera.
Specialty Minerals is looking for a PLANT SECRETARY
Responsibilities: Administrative and secretarial functions of the plant. Preparing reports and following up on orders and deliveries. Secretarial services to the plant manager.
Requirements: Fluent English and Hebrew including correspondence. Knowledge and experience with word-processors and spreadsheets.
Specialty Minerals offers excellent salary benefits and the opportunity to join a world leader with state-of-the-art research technology and manufacturing.
Send CV, stating the position, to the Adam Institute, 3 Rehov Tiv'ot Ha'aretz, Tel Aviv 69546, Fax: 03-6483534. CVs will be passed to the client.

Seeking Experienced **P.R. MANAGER**
● Mother-tongue English, fluent in Hebrew.
● Experience as spokesperson and with handling press releases
Interviewing by Michal at "Kedumim Personnel"
Tel. 02-259277, Fax: 02-232340

WAYSMAN'S SCHOOL FOR WRITERS
"Where everyone can write!"
Thurs., March 7 - Non-fiction: Mining your own experience.
Mon., March 11 - Writing for children: "Dialogue, Action and Plot."
Tue., March 19 - Fiction for adults: "Aim for the Heart."
Workshops take place 4:30-6:30 pm. Cost NIS 70 (incl. refreshments).
Conducted by Dvora Waysman, author of "The Pomegranate Parable" and the forthcoming "Back of Beyond."
5/5 Karmon St., Beit Hakerem, Jerusalem
Tel. & Fax: (02) 6513086

Wanted - Typist for a dynamic company full-time
Experienced in Word Perfect or Word for Windows 6.0
English mother tongue only
Call Plan 03-6487682
DEFENSE SYSTEMS LTD. 83

Non-Profit Organization seeks **Qualified Professional** to work with **Visiting Delegations**
University degree and relevant experience necessary
Please apply, including resume to P.O.B. 3489, Jerusalem 91034 for "Delegations"

RAVANA REAL ESTATE
RENTALS
5 ROOM APT. with lift, spacious \$650
VILLA - 6 room, like new \$1,200
SALES
3 ROOM APT. 2nd floor, quiet, desirable location. \$175,000
4 ROOM APT. 120 sq.m. no lift. Bright & cheerful \$197,000
4 ROOM APT. 3rd floor + lift. Lovely park view \$229,000
DIVORCE SELL 5 room, huge 3rd floor with lift \$249,000
39 OSTROVSKY 09-7714042

English Secretaries
See our latest jobs on the internet!
www.marksmen.co.il
Tel: 03-696 3383
Fax: 03-691 8260
Aula House, 4 Weizman Street
Tel Aviv 61239
e-mail: secretaries@marksmen.co.il

habitat rentals
RECHAVIT 2.5, grand fit, garden, long term \$980
RECHAVIT 4, urban, own heating, storage \$1000
WOLFSON 4, unfurnished, great views, 1/2 km \$1200
RECHAVIT 4, luxurious, garden, priv. exit \$1500
VALMITE 4, VERY LUXURIOUS, fully-furnished private heating, air-conditioning, pool \$3500
LOTS MORE JERUSALEM RENTALS AVAILABLE!
tel: 02-6111222

EXTRA! EXTRA! EXTRA! EXTRA! EXTRA!
PESACH FLIGHTS TO LONDON
Depart: March 21, 24, 28 and April 2
CALL NOW FOR THE BEST PRICES!
SAGI TOURS (03) 5224006
72 Ben Yehuda St., Tel Aviv

Telecommunications Company seeks **FREELANCE SALES AGENTS**
* All localities except Jerusalem
* Long term commitment
Contact Meir (national marketing director)
02-6221972

A World leader in networking and internetworking access solutions is looking for:
TECHNICAL WRITER
Qualifications:
● English mother tongue
● Experience in writing technical documentation
● Background in electronics and computers an advantage
● Experience in D.T.P. (Ventura, Corel Draw, Word)
Please address all inquiries in writing (and indicate position number) to the Personnel Department, 8 Hanechoshet St. Tel Aviv 69710, Israel Fax: 03-6475945
Email: michal@radmail.rad.co.il
Suitable applications will be replied to. Confidentiality assured.
RAD
data communications ltd.

Israel Phoenix Assurance Co. Ltd.
seeks **Word Processor Operator**
(Word 6) with English as mother tongue.
Permanent, full-time position, 5-day week.
Please call 03-5670319

SEEKING LIFETIME PARTNER
CONTACT **RUTH**
09-828983 or 025553
* FOR LIFETIME PARTNERSHIP
* SINGLE - DIVORCED - WIDOWED
* SECULAR, TRADITIONAL or RELIGIOUS
* DISCRETE SERVICE for CONCERNED PARENTS
Anglo-Israeli International Singles
ISRAEL - U.S. - CANADA - EUROPE - S. AFRICA

English-Hebrew secretary
Good typing on Word Processor
Full time, 5-day week
Tel. 02-252202
Fax: 02-246633

הכרזה מן האתר

Why don't Zionism...

Final word on 'The Economist'

EYE ON THE MEDIA
DAVID BAR-ILLAN

HATS off to *The Economist's* international editor Stephen Hugh-Jones, last week's guest columnist who responded to charges in "Eye on the Media" columns.

The fortunes of *The Economist*, one of the world's most influential magazines, cannot be affected by what *The Jerusalem Post* or any other newspaper says about it. That Hugh-Jones took the trouble to write a lengthy rebuttal to our accusations is a sign of supreme conscientiousness and exceptional integrity. Only *Encyclopaedia Britannica* editor Robert McHenry (guest columnist, May 14, 1993) has shown such sensitivity to imputations of bias and distortion.

Nor are Hugh-Jones's responses limited to published criticism. Numerous readers have reported receiving his detailed replies to letters, faxes and phone calls.

Moreover, despite his apparent inability to admit error, *The Economist* has corrected a couple of glaring, if minor, offenses. After receiving complaints from the American media-watch organization CAMERA about avoiding the term "terrorist" in reports on bus bombings and other attacks on Israelis, it described some outrages as "terrorism."

But it has yet to bring itself to call the "IRA terrorists" or "Kurdish terrorists," it does not say "Hamas terrorists." The difference is not accidental. There is a semantic and a legal distinction between branding a group terrorist and merely charging it with terrorist acts.

The magazine has also stopped using "Palestine" as a fly-tide over news stories. The date on April 1, 1995, was "Nablus, Palestine." On January 27, 1996, it was simply "Ramallah." Even

tendentious textual references to "Palestine" (as in "Since he returned to Palestine, Mr. Arafat has carefully nurtured a coalition of military men and Palestine's traditional land-owning class," April 1, 1995) have become rare.

All this is good news. The bad news is that on the substantive level Hugh-Jones does not and cannot successfully rebut the charges of bias in news reporting.

Incredibly, he seems to have trouble understanding the nature of the criticism. It has nothing to do with the magazine's editorial stance. *The Economist* obviously has a perfect right to promote the establishment of a Palestinian state. No one expects Hugh-Jones to be a more ardent Zionist than Shimon Peres.

But if *The Economist* purports to observe journalistic ethics it must not let its political agenda affect its reporting. In one of his letters to critics Hugh-Jones writes, "We have argued this point [for a Palestinian state] in our editorials; we neither need nor want to slip it in covertly in our reporting." Yet not a single news story about Israel and the Palestinians — as the two "Eye" columns on *The Economist* amply demonstrated — is free from agenda-driven bias.

That Hugh-Jones confuses news and editorial opinion is apparent from the one and only substantive item in his rebuttal. To my comment that criticism of Arafat is "something bordering on heresy in the magazine's pages," Hugh-Jones replied, "A week earlier we wrote of [Arafat]: 'dictatorial, his finger in every pie.' But this sentence appeared in an editorial, not a news story.

To cite such a sentence is not only disingenuous; it is downright misleading. For even in this slip at Arafat, *The Economist* manages to blame Israel for his dictatorial sins. "Though he is crit-

ized by his own people for creating the elements of a police-state, he has been pushed that way by Israel's insistence that his priority must be to root out terrorism," says the editorial about a man who for over a decade ran a ministate in Lebanon which was one of the region's most ruthless dictatorships.

Of course, pointing to bias in *Economist* editorials is like shooting ducks in a barrel. This same editorial, headed "Birth of a state," states: "The birth takes place under threatening skies.... The killing of two Israeli soldiers near Hebron adds to the tension. Bloody-minded Israelis may disrupt voting in East Jerusalem."

Readers must wonder how Israelis keep getting killed without assailants; it must be something like spontaneous combustion. And it is comforting to know that not their attackers are bloody minded, but those vote-disrupting Israelis themselves.

Compare this to a news report — not an editorial — which describes life in Gaza: "Three of Mr. Arafat's men were shot dead by Israelis at Rafah crossing point this week, emphasizing its vulnerability." Undoubtedly out of consideration for its readers' sensibilities, *The Economist* omits the detail that even by Palestinian accounts these men, one of whom was a wanted terrorist, had opened fire on an Israeli patrol.

Hugh-Jones also seems to have trouble with the term "journalistic ethics." Baselessly and gratuitously he brands CAMERA, an organization endorsed by Natan Sharansky and Alan Derstowitz, "a hyper-hawkish US pressure group."

And he complains that I failed to call him before publishing my critique. "So much for Bar-Ililan, lecturer in journalistic ethics — or even basic skills," he sneers.

But what "Eye on the Media" does is review published articles, not events. To cast the editor or author of these articles would be as improper as calling the author of a book under review. Readers of *The Economist* do not ask the publication for clarifications. What they see is what they get, and that is the only material a critic should examine.

With virtually no exception, Hugh-Jones responds to specific charges with general disclaimers. His defense against the detailed examples of anti-Israel bias is a quote from an *Economist* editorial: "Israel has as solid a right to exist, secure and recognized, as the United States." (It is almost a safe bet that Israelis believe Britain, too, has a right to exist; but this would hardly justify distorted Israeli reporting on Britain.)

Hugh-Jones's own opinions, for or against Israel, are irrelevant. But since he persistently brings them up, the following letter from Karin McQuillan of Concord, Mass., may be pertinent:

"I wrote a letter to the *The Economist* protesting their avoidance of the word terrorist for Arab political murder of Israeli civilians and received the most unusual reply: a letter, a two-page fax and a half-hour phone call from international editor Stephen Hugh-Jones. In the course of denying that *The Economist* has a pro-Palestinian news policy, Hugh-Jones told me that he can under-

stand Palestinians killing Jewish civilians, men, women and children, but going back to 1947, and that he would do the same if Britain were invaded. He says he understands, he said Israel's creation was as if an Amazonian Indian tribe were to claim California on the basis of having passed through on their migration from Asia ten thousand years ago. In his next breath, he asserted he respected Israel's right to exist. He wasn't even aware he was saying something immoral or outrageous."

No wonder, then, that to the charge that news reporting about Israel is agenda-driven, Hugh-Jones repeats the ludicrous claim that the Palestinian side had not been properly represented in pre-Oslo days. (Typically, he ignores the facts cited in the "Eye" column: "No lead of state... has received greater attention, more media exposure and more favorable press than Arafat. Nor has any terrorist organization been treated more sympathetically than the PLO, nor any cause championed with greater ardor than that of the Palestinians...")

Reinforcing his argument, Hugh-Jones assures us that *The Economist* has two correspondents in the area, "one is Israeli and Jewish, the other neither Arab nor Moslem. What 'bias' does that show?"

Perhaps in Hugh-Jones's circles, being Jewish means you cannot be biased against Israel. But surely he knows that some of "Eye on the Media's" favorite targets are Jews.

And the final clincher is to say, in effect, "we are an independent magazine, you are an interested party. Who is likely to be more biased?" But this is not a reply. The charges are specific, the examples clear. Regardless of their ori-

gin, they demand an answer. Surely, Hugh-Jones would not disqualify himself as a legitimate critic of stories which present Britain as the arch-villain in its conflict with the Irish.

Specific charges on omissions, too, are dismissed. For stories like the kidnapping by Arafat's police of Palestinian human rights activist Bassam Eid and al-Quds editor Maher Alameh, claims Hugh-Jones, there is simply not enough room.

But what Hugh-Jones is most sensitive to is what he perceives as a charge of antisemitism. Neither this column nor CAMERA has ever accused him of antisemitism, though there is something to be said for the notion that applying a double standard to Israel is a form of antisemitism. In defense, Hugh-Jones wrote out his "We are all Jews" article in the October 1980 *Financial Weekly*, following the bombing of a Paris synagogue.

Nothing is more fashionable than defending Jews as victims. Even the usually virulent BBC was sympathetic to Israelis when they covered in sealed rooms under a barrage of Iraqi Scuds, and it was philo-Semitic to the point of embarrassment in a program about medieval persecution of Jews. It is only when Israel does what it considers vital to its survival that this maudlin sympathy disappears.

Even more irrelevant is Hugh-Jones's statement that at least one in ten of his *Economist* colleagues is Jewish, and that he lunched at the magazine's dining room both with Britain's "late chief rabbi" (who is alive and well in Israel) and his successor.

Okay, okay, Mr. Hugh-Jones, we know some of your best friends are Jewish. And, yes, you do protest too much.

Why don't we talk about Zionism and Judaism?

A VIEW FROM NOV
MOSHE KOHN

THE new rabbi has devoted his first sermons to exhorting his flock on such topics as observance of Shabbat and kashrut, the need to give their children a more intensive Jewish education, and the Jewish traditions on family mores, business ethics and sexual ethics.

A delegation of worshipers led by the shul's president asks the rabbi to please change the focus of his sermons: the topics he has been speaking on are — uh — er — controversial, and some members and their families find them embarrassing and provocative.

"What should I speak about?" the rabbi asks.

The president says brightly: "Why don't you just talk about Yiddishkeit?"

I was reminded of this not-so-apocryphal tale by the sanctimonious urgings of some Labor politicians to keep certain issues out of the election campaign, because, they passionately protest, the government and the nation — at least the Jewish sector — are in one accord on those issues.

One of the central issues in this alleged messianic consensus is the integrity of Jerusalem. The consensus purportedly rejects all the ideas that have been mooted for the capital's rededication, such as: administratively, by dividing the city into semi-autonomous boroughs; politically, by permitting the PLO to establish the seat of branches of its Palestine National Authority (PNA) in "Undivided Jerusalem."

We have seen the government's majestic forbearance regarding a wide range of PLO/PNA presences and activities in Jerusalem, and regarding PLO/PNA violations of the Oslo accords regarding not only us, but also their own "subjects," and not only in the autonomous areas, but even in Jerusalem.

We have heard government spokesmen and supporters of its policy again and again dismiss vile anti-Israel standers and bellicose pronouncements by PNA/PLO officials as being "mere words" or "for internal consumption only."

Prime Minister Shimon Peres himself dismissed a murderous song praising Force 17, Arafat's private militia, saying: "There are those who sing and those who shoot, I'm checking out those who shoot" (*The Jerusalem Post*,

January 19). The refrain of that song, on a cassette that was — and perhaps still is — distributed also in Israel, ends with the line: "Zionist, your death is in my hands."

Last Sunday in Jerusalem and Ashkelon we saw bloody examples of how, indeed — as so many people have been saying since Yitzhak Rabin's assassination — "words can kill."

In condemning the outrages, Peres, Yasser Arafat, and others again condemned the terrorists as bent on "killing the peace." It isn't the peace they wish to kill, but the Jews, especially the Jews of Eretz Yisrael.

THE ELECTION purists of the left have also urged that the assassination is an incitive issue that should not be dragged into the election campaign.

That is a most reasonable and honorable suggestion, which no respectable politician could reject, if Peres hadn't launched his and the Labor Party's election campaign in the unconscionable manner he did.

I refer to his opening his February 11 official announcement calling for early elections with an appeal to passions and to near-universal guilt feelings among Jews over the assassination by recapitulating Rabin's last moments in almost ghoulish detail.

The only relevance Peres's necrology had to his announcement was as an indirect appeal to people's penchant for establishing guilt by association, and in such instances also righteousness by association.

In effect, he reminded the public that he, Shimon Peres, the valiant, peace-pursuing Yitzhak Rabin's partner and now heir to his political mantle, was imposing elections on the public before the scheduled time only because the valiant, peace-pursuing Yitzhak Rabin had been murdered by a member of the right-wing, soil-worshipping "anti-peace" camp.

If, as Peres and his colleagues contend, this necrology was not cynical exploitation of Rabin's murder, then neither is it cynical to recall the atmosphere of prevarication and delegitimization in which the murder occurred.

Rabin himself, with his vilification in foul language of all critics,

even those in his own party, and especially Orthodox Jews, and by implying that the government is not responsible for the security of Jews living in Judea, Samaria and Gaza, played a major part in fostering that atmosphere.

Peres made his special contribution by telling a critic who spoke to him in Anglo-accented Hebrew to "Go back where you came from." Rabin followed Peres's lead in reviling American Jews in general, and those living in Israel in particular.

I am not justifying or "explaining" the assassin's act. There is no justification for it, not even one like former Jerusalem mayor Teddy Kolek's admiration of Friedrich Adler, killer of Austria's World War I prime minister, Count Karl Sturgkh, in 1916.

Kolek writes in his autobiography, *For Jerusalem*: "I felt a deep admiration for Adler, not because he had killed a man he considered a symbol of tyranny and a menace to his country, but because of his complete identification with his cause [and] his ability to state it and stand for it."

Peres continued to ride the assassination hobby-horse when he told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee on February 20: "There is no doubt that there are people who want to murder ministers in Israel... thousands... are planning, or are ready, to murder ministers."

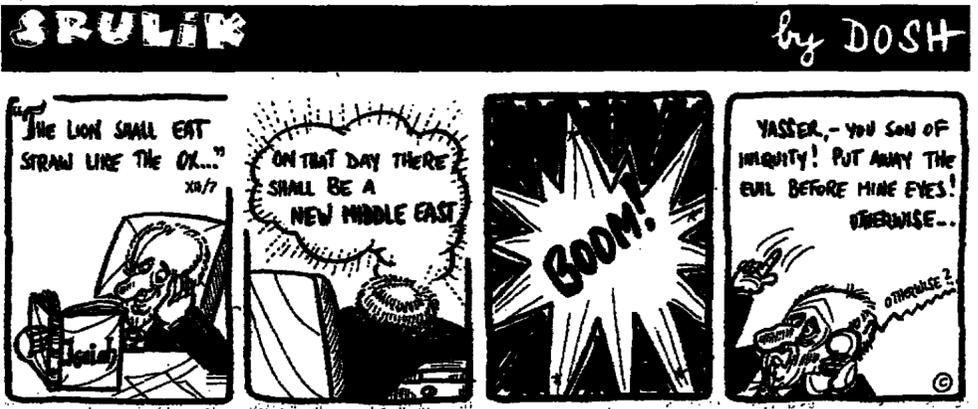
Is this not incitement?

So I see nothing morally wrong with that inane jingle allegedly composed by an anonymous group of supporters of Likud leader Binyamin Netanyahu, "I'm sorry about Rabin of blessed memory, and I'm voting for Bibi." In any event, not voting for Rabin's program or its executors.

Rabin's assassination has not changed the fact that under his and Peres's leadership we embarked on a course that a very large part of the population thinks is a unilateral-concession process, not a peace process. The only apparent change is Peres's speeding up the process, except for the temporary suspension till Sunday's victims were buried.

Rabin's assassination has not changed the fact that the Rabin/Peres program is opposed in the Knesset by a majority of the MKs who support the Jewish and/or Zionist character of Israel.

Let the candidates talk about that and about the kind of integrity and justice it calls for.



Always on guard: The lesson of Shabbat Zachor

SHABBAT SHALOM
SHLOMO RISKIN

THE Sabbath immediately preceding Purim is called *Shabbat Zachor*, on which we read the commandment to remember what the nation of Amalek did to us when we left Egypt, initiating a heartless attack from the rear aimed at the weak and the sick, the women and children (Deuteronomy 25).

Interestingly enough, the battle itself appears early in Exodus, closing a narrative sequence that opens with the crossing of the Red Sea and culminates with Moses striking the rock at Horeb: "And then came Amalek and fought with Israel... And it came to pass, when Moses lifted up his hand that Israel prevailed, and when he let down his hand Amalek prevailed. And God said to Moses: 'Write this for a memorial in the book... the memory of Amalek from under heaven.'" (Exodus 17:8-15)

Here the attack appears in context, but this is not so in Deuteronomy, where the reference to Amalek appears in the closing verses of a portion rich with 27 positive and 47 negative commandments. And then, seemingly out of nowhere, the Torah gives us the final commandment: "Remember what Amalek did to you by the way when you were coming out of Egypt, how he met you by the way and smote your hindmost — all who were feeble — in the rear when you were faint and weary, and feared not God. Therefore it shall be, when the Lord your God has given you rest

from all your enemies round about... you shall blot out [them] the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven." (Deuteronomy 25:17-19)

A NUMBER of questions are raised by these passages:

- The passage in Deuteronomy, with its details about the attack, seems more appropriate for the reading right before Purim than that in Exodus, which merely stresses that Moses' hands were held aloft.
- In Exodus, God tells Moses, "I will blot out the memory of Amalek," while in Deuteronomy, Moses tells the people "you shall blot out Amalek." Who will actually destroy Amalek?
- Moses uses a puzzling phrase in telling the Israelites to erase the memory of Amalek: "... it shall be when the Lord your God has given you rest from all your enemies... you shall blot out the remembrance of Amalek." (Deuteronomy 25:19) If Amalek is still our enemy, then what kind of rest are we enjoying?
- Finally, why is there a special Sabbath for "remembering Amalek" when in a few days we'll be commemorating the destruction of the infamous Jew-hater, Haman, descendant of Amalek?

To answer these questions, let's first turn to Maimonides's *Laws of Kings*. This is where he first codi-

fies the commandment to destroy the seven indigenous nations in Canaan, and concludes that this directive is now obsolete since their identity "has been lost." Yet when Maimonides codifies the commandment to destroy Amalek, he does not mention a word about its identity having been lost. (Ch. 5, laws 4, 5)

On this basis, Rabbi Haim of Brisk distinguished between the physical nation of Amalek, that once lived near Canaan and the concept of evil identified with Amalek, whose goal is to destroy Israel and its unique message for the world.

With this in mind, our two passages make more sense.

The verses in Exodus describe a physical Amalek attacking a defenseless people for no apparent reason. Thus threatened, the Israelites had to counterattack. Along with waging the battle, there must be genuine prayer. And so the message in this passage concerns war and prayer.

BUT AMALEK is also an ideology that denies Israel's unique mission of perfecting the world. The spiritual heir of Amalek include the Nazis, the Soviet communists and Moslem fundamentalists.

And if Amalekism is any concept which defines the uniqueness of Israel, then it can even rear its ugly head from within the Jewish

nation itself. As the prophet teaches: "Those who would uproot us and destroy us emanate from our very innards."

Israelites will always be vulnerable to Amalekite propaganda from within if they lose sight of their national goal of Jewish statehood, and its accompanying ideal, that "from Zion shall come forth Torah and the word of God from Jerusalem."

"And they cut off all those lagging to the rear, and you were tired and exhausted." People never tire from rigorous activity on behalf of a clear goal. When one loses that sense of purpose, however, then tiredness and even exhaustion set in. Without a sense of Divine destiny at its center, Israel will have been vanquished and Amalek will have succeeded.

Therefore it shall be when the Lord God has given you rest from all your enemies round about... that you shall blot out the message of Amalek."

When you are finally in the Land of Israel, you are most vulnerable to Amalek's blandishments. "We want to be a nation like all other nations," you say to yourselves at every opportunity. "We yearn for material success and physical comforts. We are interested in Madonna rather than repentance. In Madonna rather than the post-Zionist age, which chooses Hong Kong over holiness!"

Shabbat Shalom and Happy Purim

Pessah Handicrafts Fair promises lots of fun for a worthy cause

BOOK this date now and tell all your friends, because we are going to have the biggest and best Pessah Handicrafts Fair ever.

Every year the Fair has been getting more spectacular and along with it, more money has been raised for the Funds.

On Monday, April 8, at 12 noon, we'll be opening the doors to our 11th Pessah Fair at the Goldberg Sports Hall, Malha, Jerusalem. The official opening will be officiated by Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert.

There will be 110 stands with lots of room so that you can move around in comfort. I'm looking forward to seeing you all there.

Although our year's work has

several highlights, we can't fulfill our obligations without the day-to-day donations from our readers. So please keep them coming. Checks can be sent to: The Jerusalem Post Funds, POB 81, Jerusalem 91000.

Donors in the US wishing to receive tax benefits can send their donations to: Friends of The Jerusalem Post Funds, 211 E. 43rd Street, New York, NY 10017. Please designate in your letter to which fund you wish to donate.

FORSAKE ME NOT

NIS 630 Anon., Beit Shמשch.
NIS 600 In memory of my beloved parents, dear sister and brother — Esther Freund, J'lem.
NIS 500 H. A. Widau-Hofland,

FUNDS
BEVERLEE BLACK

Loren Holland.
NIS 200 In memory of my parents, Marcelle and Emilie Nada — Ileana Markus Nada, Tel Aviv, H. Lewandowski, Afula.
NIS 150 Donated by Dr. Feina and Saul Masin in honor of Abraham and Margot Ben-Yehoshua's 50th wedding anniversary. S.R.L., Ashdod.
NIS 120 Brenda Grotkin, J'lem.
NIS 100 Anon., J'lem. Anon., Tel Aviv.
In memory of my father Yehuda Feldman (27) — Susa Reiter, Brian Freund, Kibbutz Keutza. In memory of our beloved deceased ones — R. and A.S., Tel Aviv.
NIS 18 Rafael Levy, Kfar Habad.
Anne Gneser, J'lem. In loving memory of step-mother Ida Belkovsky Shapiro — Celia Schwartz, J'lem.
NIS 25 In memory of dear ones —

Claire and Stanley Levin and family, Petah Tikva.
\$5,000 Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Moskowitz, San Jose, CA.
\$55 Congratulations to Sydney and Sarah Oblowitz of Cape Town on your 80th birthdays and 55th wedding anniversary. With love from your sons, daughters-in-law and grandchildren — Leonard in Portugal, Danny, Michelle, Tamara, Lara and Cassie-Leigh in Australia, Eddie, Jennith and Ronen in Cape Town and Taly and Shelly in Israel.
\$50 In honor of Professor Abecassis — Beranger Barbu, Neuchatel, Switzerland.
\$35 Jack Nahum, Brooklyn, NY.
\$18 In honor of our daughter Amy's birthday — Dr. and Mrs. Arnold Rothstein, Glen Cove, NY. In honor of

Charles Swartz of East Providence, RI, on his 85th birthday — Herta Hoffman, Providence, RI. Hag Pessah Sameah to my dear friends in Israel — Bryna, People's Republic of China.
Aust \$100 In honor of the birth of Timmy-Sima-Rachel. Wishing her good health — Her great-grandparents Sity and Bemo Elias, Melbourne, Australia.
New Donations NIS 3,364.52 Progress Totals NIS 190,015.15
\$5,194 \$16,091
(other currencies converted into shekels)

TOY FUND

\$5,000 Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Moskowitz, San Jose, CA.
\$250 Mr. David Scharf, West Lake Village, CA.

\$180 Interactive Business Services, Bayside, NY.
\$55 Congratulations to Sydney and Sarah Oblowitz of Cape Town on your 80th birthdays and 55th wedding anniversary. With love from your sons, daughters-in-law and grandchildren — Leonard in Portugal, Danny, Michelle, Tamara, Lara and Cassie-Leigh in Australia, Eddie, Jennith and Ronen in Cape Town and Taly and Shelly in Israel.
\$36 From Andrew, Elisa, Ethan, Hannah, Jacob, Janice, Joseph, Joshua, Lauren, Michal, Mollie, Ricky, Tali N. and their teachers Gloria Shelton and Sally Gold of the Beth Hillel BJE Early Childhood Center, Wilmette, IL.
\$20 Carolyn Greene, North Canton, OH.
\$18 Hag Pessah Sameah to my dear friends in Israel — Bryna, People's Republic of China.
Aust. Sch. 3,612 Gunter and Gertraude

Pogats, Eisenstadt, Austria.

New Donations	Progress Totals
NIS 1,098.41	NIS 16,822.64
\$5,359	\$15,180.69

(other currencies converted into shekels)

WELCOME HOME FUND

\$5,000 Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Moskowitz, San Jose, CA	
\$55 Congratulations to Sydney and Sarah Oblowitz of Cape Town on your 80th birthdays and 55th Wedding Anniversary. With love from your sons, daughters-in-law and grandchildren — Leonard in Portugal, Danny, Michelle, Tamara, Lara and Cassie-Leigh in Australia, Eddie, Jennith and Ronen in Cape Town and Taly and Shelly in Israel.	

New Donations	Progress Totals
NIS —	NIS 2,967
\$5,055	\$7,911



Polgar sisters make history

CHESS
NICK KOPALOFF

Hungary's Zsuzsa Polgar last week won the world women's title as she defeated China's world champion Xie Jun in their 16-match series in the Spanish city of Jaen. Polgar secured victory after game 13 with an unsurpassable score of 8.5-4.5.

Xie Jun became world champion in 1991 when she wrested the title from Georgia's Maya Chiburdanidze. Her triumph put an end to 41 years of Soviet domination of women's chess.

Although basking in her success, Zsuzsa, the oldest of three Jewish chess-playing sisters, is only technically the No. 1 woman player. Her sister Judith is over 100 points higher than her in the ratings. But Judith has ardently refused to participate in all-women events. This decision is perhaps justified as FIDE's January 1996 rankings list Judith as the 10th best player in the world - the highest placing ever attained by a woman.

Local chess officials are hoping that Israel will get quite a bit of mileage from Zsuzsa Polgar's victory. Polgar's coach is one of Israel's top players, former Soviet champion Lev Psakhis. Moreover, Zsuzsa recently married an Israeli and so could well choose to take up Israeli citizenship. This would give Israel its fifth-ever world champion, having recorded four previous successes at junior levels.

NO DECISION has been reached as to the date and venue for FIDE's world championship match between Anatoly Karpov and Gata Kamsky. The winner of that duel is expected to play PCA champion Garry Kasparov in a reunification match.

Karpov and Kamsky gave a preview of the battle in store as they came out even in this grueling game from last year's Groningen classic. Karpov eventually won the tournament.

Kamsky, Gata - Karpov, Anatoly
Groningen 1995
Caro-Kann

Le4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e5. Kamsky chooses one of the most aggressive lines against Karpov's favourite choice of opening.

3...Bf5 4.Nf3 e6 5.Be2 Ne7 6.0-0 Bg6 7.Nbd2 c5 8.e4 cxd4 9.Nxd4 Nc6 10.N2f3 dxc4 11.Bxc4 Be7 12.Be3 0-0 13.Rc1 a6 14.a3 Qe8 15.Ba2 Kh8 16.Re1 Nxd4 17.Qxd4 Nc6 18.Qg4 Rc8 19.h4 h6 20.Bb6 Nb8 21.Bc7? Qd7! 22.Ba5 Rxc1 23.Rxc1 Re8 24.Bc3 Nc6 25.Bb3

Bc5 26.Rd1 Qe7 27.h5 Bh7 28.Qf4 Qe7 29.Rd2 Kg8 30.Kh2 Rb8 31.Bc2 Bxc2 32.Rxc2 Qb6 33.Qh4 Rd5 34.b4 Be7 35.Qe4 Bb8 36.a4 Qe7 37.g3 Qd7 38.Kg2 Be7 39.Rc2 Ne7 40.Qd4 Bb6 41.a5 Bc7 42.g4 Nc6 43.Rc4 Bd8 44.Ne1 Be7 45.Nc2?

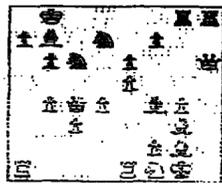


DIAGRAM 1
45...Nxa5!! 46.bxa5 Rc5 47.Qd4. Both 47.Qb3 and 47.Qb4 fail to 47...Qc6 regaining the piece with advantage.

47...Qxd4 48.Rxd4 Rxc3 49.Nc3 Kf8 50.Kf3 Ke8 51.Ke4 Rb3 52.Ne4 Be5 53.Rd2Rb4 54.Rd3 Rb3+ 55.Ke4 Rb4 56.Kd3 Kd7 57.Kc3+ Ke7 58.R3 Rb1 59.Kc2 Rb4 60.Kc3 Rb5 61.Ra2 f6 62.exf6+ gxf6 63.f4 Bb4+ 64.Kd3 Rd5+ 65.Ke4 Be3 66.Ke3 Bd4+ 67.Kf3 Rb5 68.Ke4 Be7 69.Ra3 f5+ 70.gxf5 exf5+ 71.Kf3 Ke6.

Karpov is a pawn up but cannot hammer home his advantage against Kamsky's stubborn resilience.

72.Rd3 Bc5 73.Rd8 Rb3+ 74.Kg2 Rb4 75.Ne5 Rxf4 76.Nd3 Rg4+ 77.Kf3 Be7 78.Rb8 Rd4 79.Kc3 Re4+ 80.Kf3 Rb4 81.Rxb7 Rb3+ 82.Ke2 Bg5 83.Nc5+ Ke5 84.Nxa6 Rxb5 85.Rb5+ Kf4 86.Rb4+ Kg3 87.Rb3+ Kg4 88.Nc5 Rb2+ 89.Kf1 Ra2 90.Rb4+ Kf3 91.Ra4 Rc2 92.Nd3 Bd2 93.Ne1+ Bxe1 94.Kxe1 0-5

IN THE following position from the 1965 Women's Olympiad between Trojanska and Jovanovic, White thought she could win a piece with 1.Bxc6. She was in for a nasty surprise. What was Black's refutation?



DIAGRAM 2
Solution: Black won outright with 1...Qh1+ 2.Bxh1 Rxf1+ 0-1.



Lions that were in this area around King David's time still existed in Iraq till the 19th century.

Animals have come, gone, stayed

NATURE
DYVORA BEN SHAUL

Over the centuries a number of mammals, birds and reptiles have disappeared from Israel. Some of them disappeared so long ago that they are almost legendary while others have become extinct within living memory. Of these others there are several mammals that once lived here and are now seen, if at all, only as zoo specimens or in a Hai-Bar park.

Although the Scriptures mention lions about 100 times and in several contexts, the local strain of *Felis leo* (the lions that were in existence here at the time of King David) still existed in Iraq right up to the 19th century. Unlike many other strains that prefer open prairie lands as a habitat, the local lions flourished in the area along the Jordan River and in Iraq along the Euphrates. Many of the Crusaders mention lions in their journals - and it appears that through their hunting of lions, it was the Crusaders who made them extinct.

The Syrian bears (*Ursus arctos*), on the other hand, fared much better and, against many odds, managed to survive well into this century.

H.W.H. Tristram, an English naturalist who studied the natural history of this part of the world during the second half of the 19th century, saw this magnificent animal along the Arbel near the Kinneret.

As late as 1945 a bear was killed near Homs in Syria. This large animal fed mostly on fruit, mushrooms, seeds and birds' eggs and was also an enthusiastic seeker of honey. These bears only exist today because the species was preserved in British zoos, particularly the London Zoo which had Syrian bears sent to it in the late 19th and early 20th century.

Cheetahs (*Acinonyx jubatus*, *pardalis* in Hebrew), held out even longer than the lion or the bear. This swift-footed cat could still be seen in the Negev late in the 1930s and cheetah skins were on sale in the market in Beersheba until the middle of World War II.

About 25 years ago a female with cubs was spotted in Jordan near Aqaba and some zoologists suspect that the animal may not be totally extinct and a few may still live in southern Jordan.

If you want to see the White Oryx, (*Oryx leucoryx re'em*), you can only do so in a zoo or at the Hai-Bar reserve in the Arava near Yotvata where they are being bred under strict protection.

This large ungulate with straight saber horns was once found in all the desert areas of the region. It is one of the most impressive members of the antelope family and was hunted to near-extinction

here during World War I. The last of them were killed in Jordan in the early '50s by workers on the oil pipeline who hunted them in jeeps. The ones seen today in reserves and zoos were brought here from the US where there is an active breeding program under way to save the remnants of the species.

Two species of local deer are also no longer found in the wild and are now found only in zoos and reserves. The red deer (*Dama mesopotamica*, *yahmur* in Hebrew) and the Carmel deer (*Capreolus capreolus ayelet hacarmel*) both disappeared in the early part of the 20th century, mostly as a result of uncontrolled hunting. It was thought they existed only in private parks and zoos in Europe until, in 1956, a herd of some 30 red deer were discovered in Iran. The herd was severely protected before the 1979 revolution but their current status is not known since the fall of the shah.

But let us fall into the trap of thinking that only the larger animals are worthy of notice it must be mentioned that less than 50 years ago the draining of the Hula wetlands caused the extinction of the black-throated frog, of two rare species of dragonflies and at least one species of food fish. Our century is not one to remember with pride where the protection of other life forms is concerned.

Norwegian international team dominates festival

BRIDGE

MATTHEW GRANOVETTER

North dealer
North-South vulnerable
North (Tislevold)
♠ K J 8 4
♥ A Q 10 6 5 3
♦ J
♣ A 2
West
♠ 9
♥ J 9 8 7 4
♦ 10 7 4 3 2
♣ Q 6
East
♠ A 7 6 2
♥ K
♦ 9 6 5
♣ 10 9 8 4 3
South (Helgemo)
♠ Q 10 5 3
♥ 2
♦ A K Q 8
♣ K J 7 5
West North East South
— 1♥ pass 1♠
pass 4♦ pass 4NT
pass 5♣ pass 6♣
(all pass)
Opening lead: ♠Q

in the South hand could be ruffed in dummy. Helgemo led the spade jack from dummy at trick two, ducked by East. Next came the spade four to the queen. This revealed the 4-1 spade split, and now declarer could no longer draw trumps, ruff a club, cash the jack of diamonds, and return to his hand with a heart ruff.

Helgemo played a third round of trumps to the king, East won with the ace and tried to cut communications by leading the 10 of clubs to South's jack. Helgemo ruffed a club in dummy and returned to his hand by overtaking the jack of diamonds with the queen.

This left him with a loser in diamonds. He drew the last trump and cashed his remaining minor-suit winners. At this point dummy held the ace-queen of hearts, and it appeared that the finesse in hearts was declarer's only chance.

But Helgemo was counting the East hand and made an interesting deduction.

East had shown up with four trumps and five clubs, then followed to three rounds of diamonds. If he held a fourth diamond, thought Helgemo, he would be void in hearts and would have doubled the slam for a heart lead. (Most experts play that the double of a slam call for the first suit bid by dummy.) That meant East was precisely 4-1-3-5 shape.

Now, the chance that East's singleton heart was the king certainly was not a good one. In fact, it was five-to-one against. But Helgemo had an "eight" up his sleeve.

When he came down to two cards in his hand and two in dummy, he was holding the deuce of hearts and the eight of diamonds opposite the ace-queen of hearts.

West was forced to keep the 10 of diamonds and, therefore, only one heart. Helgemo led his deuce of hearts, and when West followed with the jack, Helgemo knew that his other card was the diamond. So he confidently went up with the ace of hearts, caught the singleton king and scored his slam.

THE Norwegian international team dominated the last two events at the Israeli Bridge Festival last week in Tel Aviv when one pair, Geir Helgemo and Geir Olav Tislevold, won the Open Pairs, and the team - including Glenn Grothum and Terje Aa - took first place in the Swiss Teams.

Helgemo, Norway's youngest and most famous champion, showed his expertise on this deal from the Swiss when Norway was matched against a national team from Germany.

Sitting South, Helgemo responded one spade to his partner's one-heart opening bid, and heard Tislevold rebid four-diamonds. This was a splinter bid, showing a singleton or void in diamonds and a strong spade raise.

Holding strength in partner's shortness is usually a bad thing, but Helgemo had other working values, so he decided to move toward slam. Four notrump was Roman Keycard Blackwood and his partner's five-club response showed zero or three keycards (the king of trumps and the four aces are keycards). The partnership was off only one keycard, so Helgemo bid the slam.

West led the queen of clubs, taken in dummy with the ace. The slam appeared to be cold, needing only a 3-2 trump division, after which the fourth club

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS

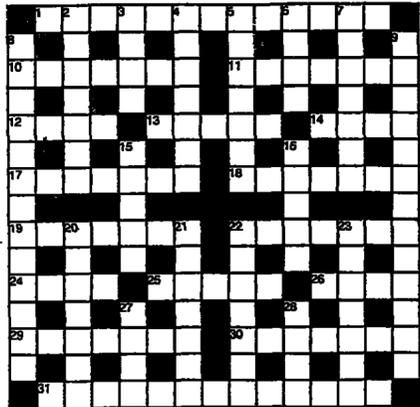
- 1 Four on the fiddle? (6,7)
- 10 Having so many years belonging to a particular generation? (2,2,3)
- 11 Bram Stoker's batman (7)
- 12 Bird making harsh sound (4)
- 13 Quick turn round in public transport (5)
- 14 Standing order for printers (4)
- 17 Follow on and win (7)
- 18 Time the bowler started? More than time! (7)
- 19 Broken treadle had a warning notice (7)
- 22 There's no smoke without it! (7)
- 24 Means of transport, sometimes sprung (4)
- 25 Moved quickly in field exercise (5)

26 Be the first to finish a round, alcoholic (4)

- 29 Player inserts key in a lock (7)
- 30 Nearer the circle, or back beneath (7)
- 31 One gets to like it, having gained discernment (8,5)

DOWN

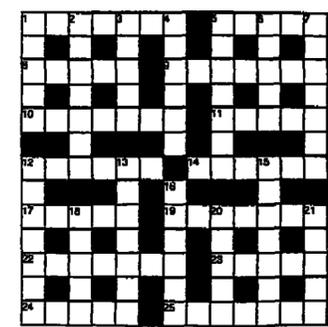
- 2 The jam-making trade? (7)
- 3 I'm half a day with a Muslim leader (4)
- 4 Newly-minted medal, for example, shone (7)
- 5 English capital put into new ground and stand (7)



SOLUTIONS

ACROSS: 1. DECADE, 10. GEN, 11. DRACULA, 12. CHIRP, 13. U-TURN, 14. STANDING ORDER, 17. FOLLOW UP, 18. TIME, 19. BELL, 22. SMOKE, 24. SPRING, 25. QUICK, 26. FIRST, 29. KEY, 30. NEAR, 31. DISCERNMENT.

DOWN: 2. JAMMING, 3. HALF DAY, 4. MEDAL, 5. CAPITAL.



QUICK CROSSWORD

- ACROSS: 1. Beyond (7), 5. Herb (5), 8. Dismay (5), 9. Misdirect (7), 10. Obvious (7), 11. Viper (6), 12. Bough (6), 14. Lethal (6), 17. Beneath (5), 19. Superintend (7), 22. Certificate (7), 23. Vigilant (5), 24. Crest (5), 25. Refuge (7).
- DOWN: 1. Blaze (5), 2. Copy (7), 3. Bisect (5), 4. Distant (6), 5. Leaving a will (7), 6. Cede (5), 7. Aged (7), 12. Mistake (7), 13. Rust (7), 15. Disagree (7), 16. Bog (6), 18. Deceived (5), 20. Rub out (5), 21. Penetrate (5).

INTRODUCING CROSS TOWNSEND INSPIRED BY AN ERA OF LEGENDARY STYLE. A collection of fine writing instruments that embody the refinement and quality of the Art Deco Age. CROSS A Style For Leadership. Sole Representative in Israel: ROLEX MIDDLE EAST - LISTENBERG TEL. 03-6191686

Gardeners weave their web on the Net

INEZ KLIMIST
GARDENING

If you have a computer and a modem, you have access to the "garden forum," which is a group of friendly, enthusiastic and helpful green-thumbs from all over the world.

"What can I plant under my roses?" "Where can I get seeds for a really hot pepper?" and "Which are the most fragrant roses?" are some of the questions asked by members of the Internet gardening forum. Answers from other Internet users are quickly forthcoming.

Meanwhile, elsewhere on the Net, members debate the use of azaleas for bonsai, share ideas for a cactus garden, offer recipes for a faster batch of compost, and compare notes on their favorite or most disappointing mail-order sources.

Members of the forum are a mixed bunch, from new gardeners planting their first patch of soil, to landscape architects with long-standing degrees in botany.

Questions can get pretty esoteric sometimes. The Internet puts everyone on the same level and new members are always welcome to enter.

The forum is divided into special interest groups so that herb gardeners can discuss their basil collections without boring orchid enthusiasts who want to talk about phals and cats. You will probably

be totally amazed when you see the variety of questions which appear. You may well find that you are knowledgeable in areas which you never realized, and before long you will also be sending in your own helpful hints.

Members "talk" to each other by sending messages for later retrieval. It's like checking your mailbox. A few days or a week after you have sent in your question, you will find replies, as well as dozens of new conversations on other subjects.

There is a section which holds discussions on areas of general interest for recreational gardeners - also divisions for specific interest groups. Last week the "rose group" alone had 178 letters in circulation, and the "orchid group" had 76. If you have an area of interest not already under discussion, it's easy to start a new group.

In addition to all this personal attention, you will find that there are many kinds of reference books, three gardening encyclopedias, and beautifully illustrated pages from some of the world's famous gardens.

The Internet also provides access to the Haifa Botanical Institute and the Botany

Department of the Tel Aviv University, which gives you special advice on what grows best, and where, in all the various climatic zones in Israel. These services are so new that in some cases the information has not yet been completely entered and you may have to wait for specific information. All this is included in the price of your Internet membership, and a better investment you can hardly find.

LET me remind you of a bit of important information. With spring just around the corner, you should know that anyone with a garden in Jerusalem is entitled to a reduction in their water bills for the period of April to October. Pay a visit to the Water Department (main floor) in City Hall. Bring along the measurements of your garden and a water bill from the previous month and request the reduced rate for garden watering.

The city wants to encourage us to beautify especially this year, when we expect so many visitors for the 3000 celebration.

For those who live in other parts of the country, I suggest that you try your own water department and see what they will offer. And don't forget to water your plants in the early morning to save water, and use a drip system instead of a lawn sprayer.

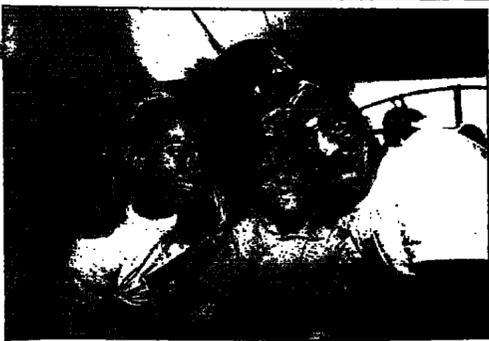


ON MONDAY - NYT DAY IN THE JERUSALEM POST DON'T MISS: Eight pages from The New York Times Weekly Review. Stories, reports, comments, analyses and opinions by some of the world's best known journalists. DON'T MISS IT!

Drive Carefully! Arrive Safely!

A brotherly act on stage and off

Down's syndrome sufferer Dekel Shikartzi was once rejected by his brother. Now playing themselves onstage, they are reunited, Ori Golan writes



Model Michaela Bercu and comedian Tuvia Tsafir entertain a patient at Schneider Children's Medical Center. (Sivan Farag)

An early Purim for patients

GRAPEVINE GREER FAY CASHMAN

PATIENTS AT Schneider Children's Medical Center in Petah Tikva started Purim early when members of Yeladim Shelanu (Our Children), a voluntary fundraising organization in conjunction with Toys 'R Us toured the wards distributing Purim gifts, masks and clowns' hats. The group included comedy star Tuvia Tsafir, top model Michaela Bercu and Leon Koffler, who is the Toys 'R Us representative in Israel. Koffler, who was reluctant to don a mask, was finally persuaded by Bercu, but she did not have to employ the steamy kiss she plants on the elevator operator in the chewing-gum commercial. Koffler, by the way, promised to establish a toys and games room on every floor of the center.

THE Coalition of Women's Organizations, which runs a very efficient telephone network when it wants to boost attendance at its functions, seems to be less resourceful when notifying invitees that plans have changed.

A symposium organized this week to enable nine women running for slots on Labor, Meretz, Likud and National Religious Party tickets to talk to women about issues that transcend party differences, was canceled out of respect for the victims of Sunday's terrorist bombing.

Several women who received their invitations as late as the day of the event turned up after making last-minute changes in plan only to find a handwritten notice on the door announcing the cancellation.

The consensus was that the program should not have been called off and that Dalia Itzik, Yael Aran, Esther Bitan, Debbie Ben-Ami, Naomi Chazan, Geula Cohen, Yael Amishav, Viva Sivan and Michal Shochat had all missed an important opportunity to make a joint decision on how to deal with regional tragedies and help families of victims of terrorism.

BRIGHTER NEWS on the women's front is that Yael Shaltiel of Kibbutz Neveh Or has created a ripple in male-dominated district councils by becoming the first woman to be elected to head a district council. A widow and mother of two, Shaltiel, 50, is the new chairwoman of the Beit She'an Valley District Council whose jurisdiction extends to 23 moshavim and kibbutzim.

SEVERAL would-be MKs came to

the Knesset on Wednesday in honor of International Women's Day (March 8) at the invitation of the Knesset Committee for the Advancement of the Status of Women. One, Nadia Hilou, declared that she's entitled to double equality as both a woman and an Arab.

"I want to be the first Arab woman in the Knesset," said the attractive mother of four who holds a master's degree in social work. She is a member of the directorate of the Tel Aviv Foundation and was the first Arab admitted to the Geographic Center, which conducts public opinion surveys, among other things.

Knesset Speaker Shevah Weiss, who took time out of the plenum to greet the women, was in somewhat of a dilemma. "If I encourage more women to run for the Knesset, then fewer men will get in. If I'm not elected," he said, "I'll return to academia and I'll support you from there."

THE NEXT government, regardless of who heads it, will be limited to 18 ministers. Labor MK Yael Dayan urged that women should not content themselves with only one token minister. "Let's go for as many as possible," she said, acknowledging that aiming for 50% of the ministerial portfolios might be too high, but stressing that 10% was too low. Meretz MK Naomi Chazan dreamed out loud of the day when the defense portfolio would be given to a woman.

FORMER EILAT mayor Rafi Hochman could not breathe easy until this week when the Supreme Court upheld his 1993 acquittal on charge of bribery, fraud and violation of public trust. The state appealed the Beersheba District Court decision... and lost. The popular and dynamic Hochman, who believes he was the victim of a witch-hunt, has not decided whether to run again for public office. But he may yield to pressure from Eilat's who want to see him back in the driver's seat.

EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR Mohamed Bassionny this week led a 30-member delegation of Egyptian businessmen to Ashdod to look at trade and joint-venture opportunities. Ashdod is of particular significance to Egyptians not only because it is a port city but because it has a monument to fallen Egyptian soldiers.

HE walks onto the stage and introduces himself: "Hello, my name is Dekel Shikartzi," he says in slow, articulated speech, "and I was born with Down's syndrome. I am an actor, singer and painter. And I am also Ori's brother."

And so begins the two-man play portraying the intricate relationship between two brothers. Ofer, a 35-year-old professional actor and dancer, and Dekel, his 21-year-old brother. It is a dialogue between two brothers who grew up in the same house, yet only got to know each other years later.

"Dekel was born when I was 14 years old," Ofer begins. "For over six years I had no contact with him at all. I shut him off from my life. We lived in the same house, but in different spheres. He lived in one end of the house and I in the other." He looks at his brother and says, "I so much wanted you to be like everyone else. Today I accept you and love you as you are." He kisses his younger brother.

"My brother didn't know that he had a brother with feelings. A brother made of flesh and blood," retorts Dekel admonishingly.

Through their dialogues, the two brothers take the audience on an emotional whirlpool, with sentiments oscillating from humor to heartache, as they confront one another and talk candidly about their feelings toward each other, toward their family, and toward society at large.

"One day," says Ofer, "after a number of years that I spent abroad, we got on a bus, Dekel and I. As was my habit on those days, I left Dekel sitting near the front of the bus on his own, while I went and sat in the back. A few minutes later, a crowd of school kids boarded the bus and as soon as they noticed Dekel, they started teasing him and making fun of him."

"Furious, I got up to intervene, but before I got there I heard Dekel say to them: 'I am asking you to stop making fun of me. I was born with Down's syndrome. Please, stop teasing me because you wouldn't want to be in my situation.' I was left speechless. Suddenly I felt so proud of him. So proud that he could stand up for himself. Proud that he was my brother." That, he points out, was the turning point in his relationship with Dekel.

"I now deeply regret all those wasted years spent in unacceptance and denial," he tells the audience, almost apologetically. "All those years that I did not see my brother growing up, taking his first steps, learning to tie his shoelaces, or learning to read."

With his dramatic intonations, comic facial expressions and self-assurance, Dekel manages to keep the audience riveted to their seats, manipulating their emotions with an adroitness reserved for fine artists.

When he talks about society, about being different and wanting desperately to belong, you cannot help but feel guilty. As he recounts a deeply upsetting experience in the Scouts, where he was bullied by another boy, the heart wants to cry

with him. He turns to the audience: "Look me in the eyes - even if they are squint - and tell me: Can you accept me as I am?" He speaks with a heavy lisp and an occasional stammer. "Will you ever stop looking skywards whenever I pass you by? Will you ever cease talking to, or about, me in the third person as though I don't understand or exist?" Total silence falls on the audience. You can hear a pin drop.

"Don't forget that if you had one chromosome too many, you would also be like me."

OFFSTAGE, Ofer says: "The irony with Dekel is that, although he has inherited a genetic defect, he has also inherited our family's artistic genes. I think that he is a genuinely gifted actor and poet. And I believe this comes across in our play. As for his singing... I think he sings like a frog." Both brothers laugh.

"But I am also an artist," Dekel reminds him.

"Five years ago, during the Gulf war," Dekel recounts, "I entered a national painting competition on the theme of sealed rooms sponsored by Ma'ariv newspaper and I came second. Meni Pe'er, who hosted the evening in which the prizes were distributed, called out the names of the three runners-up, and asked them to come and collect their prizes. When my name was called out and I approached him, he looked at me, speechless. He was shocked. I had to say to him: 'Yes. I have Down's syndrome.'"

As the play develops, the conversation between the brothers veers toward family life. Dekel talks to Ofer of his quest for female companionship, and Ofer recalls feeling overshadowed by Shahar, their other brother, a brilliant actor and musician, whom he idolized and even followed when Shahar became religious.

"For three years I studied pages of Gemara because of my reverence for Shahar," says Ofer. They speak of their years of separation during Ofer's long absence while on an acting career abroad; and of this, their joint performance, which for Ofer entailed turning down career opportunities elsewhere. The conversation takes on tones of accusations, frustration and reconciliation, as the two siblings move from one subject to the next.

Feelings of anger, sacrifice, shame and jealousy all surface in the course of their dialogues and one has the distinct feeling of having dropped in on a private, intimate, conversation between two brothers, and not wanting to disturb this moment of stock-taking.

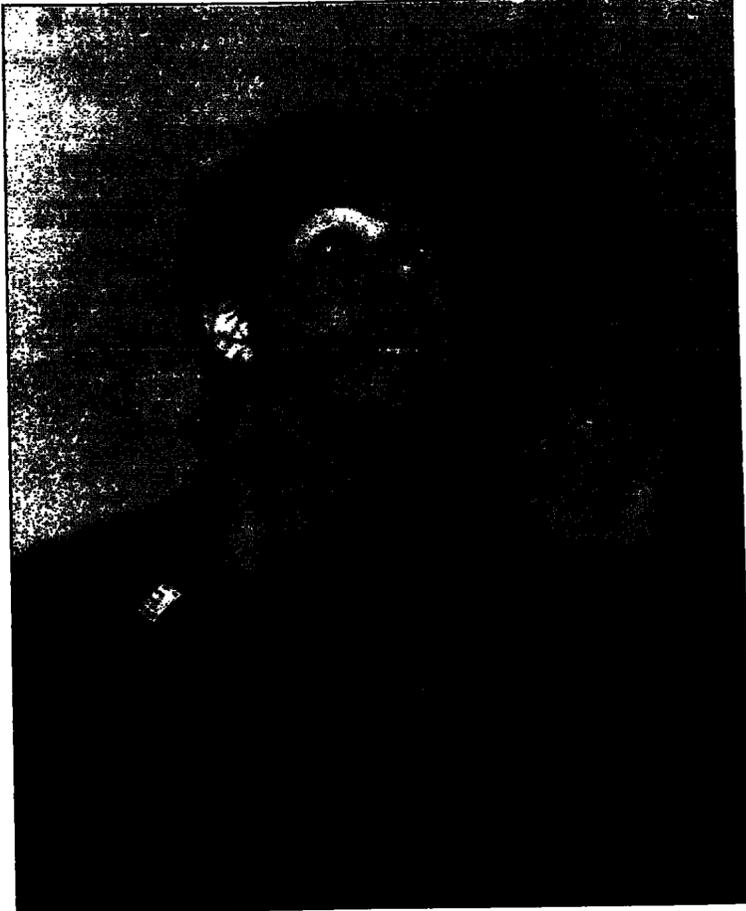
"One of the aims of this play," explains Ofer, "is to involve the audience to the point that they are not sure whether we are improvising or really acting."

To this end, there is constant interaction between the two brothers and the audience, with Ofer talking directly to the audience in some parts and engrossed in conversation with Dekel - oblivious of the onlookers - in others.

Dekel too turns to the audience. He chooses one female member of the audience and commences on a flirtatious dialogue explaining why she is the woman for him, causing some members of the audience to laugh, and others to writhe in embarrassment.

Emotions reach fever pitch toward the end of their act, as Dekel recites one of his own poems.

He who is different is still a human being.



Dekel during a performance asks the audience: Look me in the eyes - even if they are squint - and tell me: Can you accept me as I am? (Below) With brother and fellow performer Ofer.



*He who is different is made of flesh and blood.
He who is different, with God's help,
also has a mother.
A mother who knows how to love.
A mother who has a heart of gold.
A mother who will not desert us.
Because we, who are different,
we are human beings.
We are just like anyone else,
made of flesh and blood.*

moving and can even serve as one of the highlights of the performance," says Ofer. "We once performed in front of a group of high-school pupils. At the end of the show, a young man got up and as he was about to speak, he broke down crying. He said that he had a sister who has Down's syndrome and until then he had kept it a secret because he was ashamed of her. He now wanted his friends to meet her."

Dekel says he would never have come this far without the support of his parents. Indeed, their mother is usually present at their performances and hopes to accompany them on their upcoming tour abroad. Dekel also often forges special relationships with his audience. "We

once performed in front of an audience of kids who had been abandoned by their parents and afterwards many of them became my friends. They need a lot of love. There are a lot of people who need to be loved. And I have a lot of love to give."

At the Other End of the House was written by playwright Bella Altman-Hadas and directed by Ravit Langlieb-Ziv.

Ofer and Dekel Shikartzi are currently working on an English version of the play, which they intend to perform in the US and in Britain. The first performance in English is due to be staged at ZOA House, Tel Aviv, at the end of March.

הללויה
Worldwide Song Contest for Jewish Youth
will take place in **Jerusalem**

Jewish youth from all over the world will take part, representing their community or association. Participants will sing in their mother tongue; the songs are being written specially for this contest. If you are interested in participating, get details from your association or community.

Communities and associations that wish to register should apply to:
Meltar, the Association for Fostering Cultural Relations Among Jews,
72 Sd. Nordau, Tel Aviv 62381, Israel.
Fax: 03-5462406

Jerusalem Municipality
State of Israel Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport
The Ministry of Foreign Affairs
THE JERUSALEM POST
Meltar
The Association for Fostering Cultural Relations Among Jews

THE RABBI'S SONS
The group who first brought you the best of Jewish Music
"קיינו כל היום" "קיינו כל היום" "קיינו כל היום"
Presents
THE RABBI'S SONS
"קיינו כל היום"
Composed by Rabbi Baruch Chait
Available in most music stores
All proceeds to furthering Jewish Education
For further information call 08 261 266

Tandoori @ Kohinar
INDIAN RESTAURANT
Special Buffet Lunch - NIS 44
(children - NIS 22) served 12:30-3:30 p.m.
Dinner 7:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.
Please call for reservations

Tel Aviv	Herzliya Pithach	Eilat	Jerusalem
Tandoori	Tandoori	Tandoori	Kohinar
Dizengoff Sq	Mercator Building	Hotel Lagunas	Holiday Inn
2 Zamenhoff St	5 Maskat St.	The King Wharf	The Crown Plaza
03-8296185	09-546702	07-333879	02-6581367
03-6296605	09-546769		02-6536667

Winners of the Chaine des Rotisseurs world famous restaurant award

ON SUNDAY - OUTLOOK DAY IN THE JERUSALEM POST
DON'T MISS:
American Outlook: comments by Alan Derashowitz, Martin Peretz, Evans and Novak and other leading American columnists; and favorite comics: Peanuts, B.C., Feiffer, Calvin and Hobbes,
DON'T MISS IT!

To enhance the quality of life in Israeli society by addressing the needs of children and youth, the Jewish Agency is now accepting applications from non-profit associations to fund innovative and creative projects in 1997 that involve children and youth (up to age 18).

To receive application forms or further information, contact:
Office of the Secretary General, Jewish Agency for Israel, 48 King George Street, POB 92, Jerusalem 91000, Tel: 02-202450, 202451

All applications must be submitted by May 2, 1996. Applications submitted after this date will not be considered.

Drive Carefully! Arrive Safely!

Ministry of Immigrant Absorption
Public Council for Immigrant Absorption

Ma'alot Tarshiha Municipality

Absorption Week Up and Down the Country and Now

Ma'alot - Tarshiha Absorption Week

March 3, 1996 - March 7, 1996

During this period numerous events will be held to encourage understanding among the residents and to integrate immigrants into Israel society.

Competitions Parties Meetings Events plays School Activities Films Flypast

and much more...

OFFICIAL OPENING ASSEMBLY
in the presence of:
Minister of Immigrant Absorption, Yair Tsaban
Mayor Shlomo Buhbut MK

Artistic program featuring singers and actors - both new immigrants and veteran residents.
Guest Singer: Uzi Hitman
Sunday, March 3, 1996, at 4:30 p.m.
Commercial Center - Ma'alot Community Center Square

Admission free The public is invited

Solidity.
Integrity.
And value for money.

Quality international packing and shipping of fine arts and household effects at its best and most reliable for almost 50 years.

BALMER & MODEL
B&M
ISRAEL

Tel Aviv: 03-6477676
Jerusalem: 02-639004

V.G. VAYER GROUP LTD.

PACKING & SHIPPING BY V.G.

ISRAEL'S FINEST SINCE 1948

Tel Aviv: 03-6810273/5, 6838335, 6829933
Vayer - Los Angeles: 1 (818) 771 1111

- Personal effects
- Fine Arts/Antiques
- Electronic Equipment
- Our own Warehouses
- Customs Clearance
- Door to Door Service - Insured - Worldwide

OMEGA OVERSEAS CO.

International Household Removers

DOOR TO DOOR WORLDWIDE

- Free storage
- All risk insurance
- Export packing and crating

WE CARRY WITH CARE

USA: N.Y. 1 (718) 937 9797
L.A. 1 (310) 432-6455
Miami 1 (305) 477 0030
U.K.: London 81 5 913 434

GLOBUS INTERNATIONAL MOVERS

ASK FOR OUR SPECIAL DEALS FOR JAN./FEB.

TOLL FREE 177-022-7272

WE SPECIALIZE IN:

- Personal effects antiques and fine art
- Export packing & crating
- All risk marine insurance
- Door to door service
- All import services
- Storage

Tel: 03-9613148 Fax: 03-9610566

JEWISH NATIONAL FUND
KEREN KAYEMETH LEISRAEL

Coordinator for Educational Programs (4/96)

Description of Position:
Responsible for formulating educational programs and activities in the history and geography of the Land of Israel and the environment for youth and special students from abroad within the framework of the JNF, and supervision of those programs.

Qualification:
Academic training in the areas of geography, Jewish history, or Land of Israel studies. Experience in leading Jewish youth and students from abroad. Experience in writing informal educational programs. Involvement in Israeli life. Mother tongue English. Involved in the ecology or knowledge of the history and geography of the land.

Rank: 370-380 in the academic scale.
Place of work and residence: Jerusalem

Suitable candidates are requested to apply in longhand, together with CV's describing education and experience, to: Manpower Dept., P.O.B. 283, Jerusalem, 91102, by March 15, 1996, and to note the name of the position on the envelope.

This is YOUR forest - Take care of it!

NARKISS REAL ESTATE

Bed Hakerem - cottage 6 rms, gdn, beautiful \$550,000
Givat Katanem - 2, parking, gdn, storage \$280,000
Beckonia - 3, beautiful loc., 4 rd fl., balconies \$270,000
Yotvata - 4, bright, low floor, renovated, storage \$445,000
Wetsum - 4, (100m) wonderful view, high in \$480,000
Keren Hayesod - 3.5, elevator, quiet \$380,000
Makar Haba - 3, renovated, quiet, private gdn \$225,000
Hakhal - 5, new building, parking, balconies \$580,000

19 Narkiss St. Jerusalem
Tel: 02-249249. Fax: 02-259585

T.D.Y.

DOOR TO DOOR HOUSEHOLD REMOVERS

- FREE ESTIMATES - FREE STORAGE
- WEEKLY SAILINGS

CALL NOW TOLL FREE 177-022-1407

ASK ABOUT OUR SPECIAL WINTER DISCOUNTS
MEMBER OF THE ZIM GROUP

TEL: 03-558 2424 • 04-8621137

GAMMA SHIPPING (ISRAEL), INC.

THE BEST MOVE YOU CAN MAKE

- Door to door service
- All risk insurance
- Free estimates
- Professional packing
- Storage services

Tel: 08-9439733 Fax: 08-9439639

LOS ANGELES 213-244-2644 MIAMI 305-886-0337 NEW YORK 718-937-9797

Notice To Our Readers

All advertisements published in this newspaper giving prices in dollars are inserted on the sole responsibility of the advertiser.

HI-TECH ELECTRONICS CO. EXPORTING TO USA, EUROPE AND JAPAN HAS CHALLENGING ENGINEERING (EE/ME) & ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS

Call 04-761114 or Fax: 04-767990

OCEAN CO. LTD.

INTERNATIONAL MOVERS • STORAGE AVAILABLE

HAIFA 04-852327/19/6 TEL AVIV 03-5162206-7 BEN GURION AIRPORT 03-5711259

EVENINGS 03-6481828 - FREE ESTIMATES.

51 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

Til Placement

An Exceptional Opportunity Exists For An Accountant

To develop a career in the center of Israel with a well known manufacturer of consumer products. Current sales in the local market are Nis 45 million and in export markets Nis 60 million and rapidly expanding. The successful candidate will be responsible to the chief accountant for general accounting functions.

Applicants must have a suitable accounting qualification, at least five years experience in supervising accounting functions in industry and be familiar with the preparation of statutory financial statements. Fluent written and spoken English is essential.

Candidates should be currently earning not less than Nis 10,000 a month

Please send applications and c.v. to
P.O. Box 2528 petach - tikva

Magic Software Enterprises, an internationally renowned, rapidly growing company seeks:

A Marketing Analyst to join its expanding international marketing department.

Responsibilities:

- Analysis of the application development tools market
- Keeping up to date with industry trends
- Transforming market analysis into competitive marketing materials

Requirements:

- MBA or equivalent in experience
- Knowledge of the software industry
- Technical background
- Strong writing and communication skills

Please send your CV and a cover letter to:
Human Resources
Magic Software Enterprises
5 HaPlaza Street
Or Yehuda 60218

Enthusiastic men and women TO TEACH ENGLISH

- Training provided
- Full and part time career opportunities
- Tel Aviv, Haifa, Ra'anana, Jerusalem, Beersheba, Safed, Rehovot, Ashdod, and all other areas of the country.

Tel. 03-512-3249, ask for Jenny

MAIN ADVERTISING

We Accept ALL kinds of Ads for THE JERUSALEM POST

19 King George St., Jerusalem.
TEL: 177-022-3400

FAX: 02-254457
VISA - ISRA CARD

SECRETARY REQUIRED

- To work in marketing office dealing only with clients outside Israel.
- Excellent English required.
- Applicants must be proficient in PC operation and Windows environment.
- Interesting, varied position.
- The ideal candidate will be independent and self motivated.
- Salary commensurate with qualifications.

Write in confidence to:
Kelsler Ltd. P.O. Box 12496, Herzliya Pituah 47633

ECI

ECI Telecom is launching new projects in the areas of data communication, videocompression and telecommunications. We offer you challenging positions and long term career tracks. You are invited to present your candidacy for the following position:

Technical Writer

To prepare and maintain English-language technical and marketing documentation - printed and on-line

- Excellent writing and communication skills (English at mother-tongue level)
- DTP professional (Frame, Ventura, Designer, Corel)
- Familiarity with telecommunications and computers
- Additional languages (Spanish, French) an asset

Send detailed resume to Human Resources, POB 3088, Petach Tikva 48130 Fax: 03-9259900. Include I.D. number and Complete discretion assured. • E-mail address: human_resources@ecitele.com

TPF CONTRACTS DOWN UNDER

Computer Consultants Australia needs at least 15 TPF programmers in Australia.

You must have minimum of 3 years experience with an airline or booking service in the use of TPF or ALCS.

CCA will arrange for and pay your visa, initial accommodation and flights. We also give expert taxation advice.

Come to the world's most popular country and enjoy beautiful weather, friendly people, a great standard of living and share with many TPF consultants already working through CCA.

CCA is one of the largest suppliers of rare skills in Australia. We have the reputation of being one of the fairest and best contract agencies with which to work.

Call Wendy in our London office for details on 44 181 545 0335.
Fax you resume to 44 181 544 1591 or send to Email: cca@ozonline.com.au

CCA COMPUTER CONSULTANTS AUSTRALIA PTY LTD
AUSTRALIA, UK, USA, NEW ZEALAND, SINGAPORE

GOING TO LONDON?

Then why not stay at **ENDSLEIGH COURT**, where you can be sure of a friendly and courteous welcome.

Our block is centrally situated, and offers self-contained studio apartments with fully equipped kitchen and bathroom.

January 1996 - March 1996 from £205* per week
April 1996 - September 1996 from £357* per week

A limited number of one and two bedroom apartments are available.

For further details, contact:
Endsleigh Court
24 Upper Woburn Place
London WC1H 0HA
Tel: 0044 171 878 0050
Fax: 0044 171 380 0280

All major credit cards accepted.
*This price includes a separate charge for provision of furnishings.

Wanted. For our Tel Aviv Branch: Purchasing Clerk

Requirements:

- English Mother tongue
- Ability to Speak / Write Hebrew
- Computer experience in Windows environment
- Knowledge of computer typing - an advantage
- Full-time work

Please send handwritten C.V., stating age, to "Alory Industries," 124 Ben Gabriel St., Tel Aviv • Ad: Motz Eilat

Industrial Plant

SECRETARY for Senior Manager

Requirements:

- English mother tongue
- Full secondary school education (preferably university degree)
- Hebrew/English word processing
- Experience not essential
- Place of work: Ashdod. Transportation not provided (vehicle essential)

קודון דואר 187 תל אביב
לפרטים נ"ג המעסיקה יתקשרת תודות

COOPERS & LYBRAND KESSELMAN & KESSELMAN

Wanted for our Tel-Aviv office
For the international tax department:

ACCOUNTANT

Foreign Tax experience
Native English speaker
with excellent English-writing skills.

Please send resume to: P.O. Box 452 Tel Aviv
or fax to: 03-5648-556 for position 620
Confidentiality guaranteed

habitat REAL ESTATE

HAIFY VEGAN 3.5, bright, succ. 1st flr \$230,000
FRENCH HILL 4, light, well-fitted, hb \$250,000
CENYER 3, quiet, stone, good location \$200,000
MUSKABA 3, nice plus 11m gallery, yard \$270,000
RECHAVIA 3, unique pied-a-terre, quiet \$215,000
BEAR HOF 5, spacious, social balc, view \$300,000
K. HERVEL 4, quiet, excellent location \$325,000
K. GRAYOT 4, 1.5 baths, MINT CONDITION \$350,000
MAYFAHEM 5.5, duplex, big terrace, NEW \$395,000
HALCHA 6, 3 levels, basement, priv ent \$400,000
RECHAVIA 4, 2.5 baths, Knesset view \$520,000
WEST HEBRON HOUSE, bldg right, 4 dunes \$540,000
R. ENKHEOL 7, 3 levels, garden, quiet \$610,000
VALAITE 4, stone, picky, hb, NEW \$670,000
MEYER SHARON COTTAGE 6+extra and \$890,000
RECHAVIA 300a, luxury on one level \$1,250,000

Wolffson shopping mall • Rechavim
Jerusalem tel: 51222 fax: 914173

הכרזת מלחמה

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Friday, March 1, 1996

On responsibility

ON THE AGENDA
AMOTZ ASA-EL

THE Supreme Court partially exonerated this week the financiers who last decade led Israel's worst ever banking fiasco, and rightly so; not because the former leaders of Hapoalim, Discount, Leumi and Mizrahi deserved punishment weaker or harsher than the heavy fines that were imposed on them, but because — as the judges pointed out — the bankers were not alone in it.

True, their stock manipulation method — which involved the establishment of subsidiaries which purchased the banks' own shares, thus artificially and illegally affecting their market value — was first launched in the mid-1970s by Hapoalim CEO Ya'acov Levinson, who committed suicide the year after the 1983 stock-exchange crash. Eventually all major banks — except First International — took part in the monetary orgy which ended in a financial catastrophe that hurt thousands of innocent citizens.

Yet the banks' manipulations were executed under the noses of regulators and legislators whom the judges charged with passive approval of the bankers' crimes. Indeed, the inflationary soil on which these economic weeds

flourished was nurtured and fertilized by politicians who placed economic issues — if anywhere at all — on the bottom of their agendas.

Had it not been for hyper-inflation — which sent every Israeli adult scrambling for alternative financial instruments in a Sisyphean attempt to preserve a hard-working person's purchasing power — the scams would have attracted much less money and affected far fewer people. And what destroyed price stability was a newly incumbent Likud's well intended, but tragically ill-prepared and hastily implemented economic reform which exposed overnight a naked lira — the shekel's predecessor — to the tempest of full floatation.

Some of that affair's key protagonists — particularly Menachem Begin and his Finance Minister Simcha Ehrlich — are no longer with us. But the precedent they set should loom ominously before every aspiring politician as a reminder that, challenging as other tasks might be, there can be no governance where economics is a side show, and there can be no sound economics without long-term planning and carefully studied road maps.

Contractors demand 50% more foreign workers

JENNIFER FRIEDLIN

THE Association of Contractors and Builders has demanded a 50 percent increase in foreign construction workers.

The request comes in response to the closure on the territories that will prevent 30,000 Palestinians construction workers from working here, half of all Palestinians who enter Israel to seek employment, association president Mordechai Yona said yesterday.

Predicting that the closure will be imposed for at least three months, Yona called on Labor and Social Affairs Minister Ora Namir and Construction and Housing Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer to issue 25,000 permits for foreign

laborers to work here. Currently 73,000 foreigners hold such permits, 50,000 of whom work in construction.

Namir will meet with Prime Minister Shimon Peres at the start of next week to discuss the request and to determine the most effective way of ensuring security against future terrorist attacks, a government spokesman said yesterday.

If the government agrees to the contractors' request, it will signify a turning point in Peres' vision of integrating Israeli and Palestinian workforces.

"In general the government prefers a secure situation with the Palestinians working here instead of foreign workers," said Zvi Timor, spokesman for the Labor Ministry. "But the issue is one of security."

The lack of Palestinian workers will cause a loss in output worth NIS 400 million per month, said association director general Amos Bar-Am.

In the last three years, 70,000 Israelis have begun working in construction, but there are not enough willing to fill the contractors' needs, Bar-Am said.

The construction industry employs 220,000 workers, 146,000 of whom are Israelis.

Teva profits rise to \$80m.

COMPANY RESULTS
GALIT LIPKIS BECK
and RACHEL NEIMAN

TEVA Pharmaceuticals yesterday announced a rise in annual net profits to \$79.79 million from \$71.64m. in 1994.

Net profits before a one-time \$4m. write off were \$83.8m. Annual revenues went up to \$667.67m. from \$587.71m., while earnings per share increased to \$14.56m. (or \$15.28 before the write-off) from \$13.17m.

Net profits for the quarter went up to \$19.8m. (or \$23.8m. before the write off), from \$17.85m. Revenues rose to \$192.86m. from \$160.6m., while earnings per share increased to \$3.61 (or \$4.34) from \$3.29.

Fourth-quarter and year-end results included a non-recurring item reflecting the settlement reached between Kupat Holim Clalit, the state and Clalit's creditors.

Prior to the settlement, the company wrote off a total of \$4m. after tax.

Total sales of pharmaceuticals increased to \$478m., or 72% of total revenues, from \$426.86m. During the year the company

received 12 FDA Abbreviated New Drug Applications (ANDAs) and introduced eight of those products — mainly during the second half of 1995.

Local pharmaceutical sales increased to \$263m. from \$225.74m.

Teva is currently negotiating the acquisition of Biocraft Laboratories, a US generic pharmaceutical manufacturer.

This proposed merger would substantially enlarge Teva's global manufacturing and marketing.

Nice Systems yesterday reported a 92 percent drop in net profits for 1995 to NIS 566,000 from NIS 52.83m. Annual revenues were NIS 65.8m. from NIS 28.2m. Earnings per share were NIS 0.09 from NIS 9.93.

The company said the drastic fall in yearly profits was due to losses on ongoing activities of the past two years and to significant investments in development and marketing of new products, in addition to the construction of an advanced operations system.

Fourth quarter 1995 net profits were NIS 1.4m., as compared with third quarter 1995 net losses of NIS 500,000.

The return to profitability was influenced by a public offering on Wall Street in January and February of this year in which Nice raised \$23m.

The company is active in two areas: computer integrated telephony and computerized intelligence systems.

Yesterday, Nice announced it had received a \$3m. order from TRW to provide one of the American company's clients with intelligence systems. The order will be filled during the current year.

Oil Fields Exploration annual net losses were NIS 12.9m. from net losses of NIS 6.72m. Revenues were NIS 11m. from NIS 2.43m.

Losses were the result of investment in exploring the Maanit 1 site.

Bank Otzar Hahayal reported a 1995 net profit of NIS 28.29 million, compared NIS 28.14m. in 1994.

Income from finance operations before provisions for doubtful debts grew 21% to NIS 159.3m. from NIS 131.6m. Operating income before provisions for doubtful debts rose 7% to NIS 78m. from NIS 72.8m.

Management said the rise in activity was reflected in a 12% growth in salary-earning customers and an 11% increase in business customers. Credit to the public reached NIS 3.7 billion, compared with NIS 3.2b. at the end of 1994.

Mishkan, a subsidiary of Bank Hapoalim, reported a 10% growth in net profits for 1995, to NIS 60.3m. from NIS 54.6m. in 1994.

Net return on equity on an annual basis fell to 15.1% from 15.9%.

Key factors which contributed to the rise included a 20% rise in financing earnings before provisions for doubtful debts, to NIS 161.4m. and a 5% increase in operating income, to NIS 75.46m.

The improved earnings were partly offset by a 6.5% rise in provisions for doubtful debts, to NIS 31.65m., and a 9% rise in operating expenses, to NIS 86.6m.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Mahteshim to invest in CO2 line: Mahteshim will complete a \$1.5 million investment in a new CO2 production line by the end of the year. The CO2 will be marketed to the soft drink industry through a pact with compressed air systems firm Maxima. *Rachel Neiman*

Trafalgar wins Thai-UK venture: Trafalgar House Plc yesterday won the largest venture ever between British and Thai firms when one of its units signed a \$445m. contract with Thai Special Steel Industry Plc (TSSI) to build a steel complex. *Reuter*

Czech truckmaker Tatra agrees to rescue plan: Shareholders of the cash-strapped Czech truck maker Tatra a.s. agreed yesterday to a rescue plan which hands over financial control to its main creditor, Komerční Banka a.s. *Reuter*

Int'l groups bid on phone tender

JUDY SIEGEL

SDX international consortia have applied to the Communications Ministry to supply international dialing services in competition with Bezeq.

Communications Minister Shulamit Aloni said the two winning consortia will be chosen according to the prices they offer, and the quality of services included in their bid. The six consortia are:

- Dolphin International Telecommunications: BellSouth, the Safra Brothers, Discount Investments, Teleglobe of Canada, Isranet, and S. Piotarkovsky.
- Newton Group: Tadiran Communications, Idan, Darcom, British Telecom, and MCA in the US.
- Barak Group: Clalcom, Sprint US, Matav, Deutsche Telekom, and France Telecom.
- Kavei Zahav Group: Southwestern Bell, Aurek, Globescom, Stat Italy, and Cahan.
- Eurokol Group: Posilim Infrastructures and Technologies, Eurocom, Bell Atlantic-US, Optzia Talls-Sweden, and Optzia New Zealand Telecom.

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Patash (foreign currency deposit rates) (22.2.96)

Currency (deposit term)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar (\$50,000)	4.575	4.250	4.250
Pound sterling (£100,000)	4.250	4.250	4.250
German mark (DM 200,000)	1.875	1.875	2.250
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	0.250	0.250	0.750
Yen (10 million yen)			

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (29.2.96)

CHECKS AND TRANSFERS	Buy	Sell	BAHONOTES	Buy	Sell	Rep. Rate**
U.S. dollar	3.4548	3.5208	3.01	3.16	3.10	3.5064
U.S. dollar	3.0843	3.1138	2.05	2.16	2.12	3.1010
German mark	2.0271	2.0716	0.47	0.52	0.51	2.1123
Pound sterling	4.6980	4.7718	4.61	4.84	4.70	4.7507
French franc	0.8062	0.8191	0.59	0.63	0.63	0.8184
Japanese yen (100)	2.2225	2.2728	2.67	3.02	2.90	2.9804
Dutch florin	1.9545	1.9946	1.88	1.93	1.88	1.8887
Swiss franc	2.5583	2.5986	2.51	2.64	2.58	2.5883
French mark	0.4574	0.4648	0.44	0.45	0.45	0.4509
Norwegian krona	0.4783	0.4871	0.47	0.52	0.51	0.4851
Danish krona	0.5402	0.5490	0.55	0.58	0.58	0.5487
Portuguese escudo	0.6798	0.6909	0.66	0.71	0.71	0.6843
Canadian dollar	2.2352	2.2820	2.19	2.31	2.27	2.2777
Australian dollar	2.3403	2.3781	2.30	2.42	2.37	2.3706
S. African rand	0.7944	0.8073	0.72	0.81	0.81	0.8045
Belgian franc (10)	1.0155	1.0318	0.99	1.08	1.07	1.0272
Austrian schilling (10)	2.9894	3.0163	2.91	3.03	3.03	3.0026
Italian lire (1000)	1.9730	2.0049	1.89	2.04	2.04	1.9998
Japanese yen	—	—	—	4.21	4.30	4.3878
Egyptian pound	—	—	—	0.87	0.88	0.9468
EUU	3.8621	3.9244	—	—	—	3.9108
Irish punt	4.8274	4.9023	4.74	4.98	4.98	4.8908
Spanish peseta (100)	2.4754	2.5154	2.43	2.56	2.56	2.5108

* These rates vary according to bank. ** Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

ON WEDNESDAY - MONEY DAY IN THE JERUSALEM POST

Is Israel's textile industry on its deathbed? DON'T MISS IT!

Real Estate & Investments in Israel 1996

Just before Pessach, The Jerusalem Post will publish special supplements, devoted to real estate and investments in Israel.

The supplements will be published in the International Editions of March 4, 11 and 18 and in the daily paper on April 5.

For more information and to advertise in these supplements, please contact: **Udi Bash 03-6390333 Fax: 03-6390277**

Programmer/System Operator Seeks Position

Programmer, wide computer knowledge. Unix, Magic, Visual Basic, "C", "C"++.

Certified System Operator.

Professional background and experience in food engineering and business. Hebrew, English, Spanish.

Tel. 09-7745639
J. Korchansky, 6 Ben Gurion St., Ra'anana

ANDREW PECK ASSOCIATES INC.

Reach U.S. markets by phone or fax from anywhere in the world

Direct Access
Our telephone and fax lines are always open. We can assure you of fast, accurate executions performed by our knowledgeable brokers. Join the 10,000 independent investors and money managers worldwide who currently trade with Andrew Peck Associates.

Low Commission Rates
Once you compare, why call anyone else? Andrew Peck Associates offer *Swings in Size* discounts for investors who trade 3,000 shares or more — pay only 3 cents Listed or 2 cents OTC (minimums apply). Even if you trade less, we will save you money. Our option rates are just as competitive. And Andrew Peck never trades against customer orders.

Compare	1000 Shares @ \$20	3000 Shares @ \$24	5000 Shares @ \$28
Our Rates	\$75	\$75	\$180
And	\$100	\$100	\$150
Save	\$25	\$25	\$30

Source: Telephone quotes, May 1994

Personal Service
At Andrew Peck Associates, we provide the special treatment you are accustomed to. We have been the leader in international discount brokerage since 1979. Every broker is a partner in the company, with an average of 10 years' experience. Most are Registered Options Principals—a distinction held by only 4% of all brokers. We immediately execute your trade and provide confirmation promptly.

For these reasons and more, Andrew Peck Associates is the international investor's choice.

Toll free numbers available from many countries. Call us today for our information kit and account application, or visit our Web site at: <http://www.the.host.com/peck>

ANDREW PECK ASSOCIATES INC.
The International Investor's Choice
Newport Financial Center, 111 Pavilion Avenue, Jersey City, NJ 07310

Phone 201-217-9500 Fax 201-217-1919
Accounts Protected up to \$25 Million Members NASD & SIPC

ASSISTANCE TO U.S. TAXPAYERS

JERUSALEM
Mar. 5 7:00-12:00 AACI, 6 Mane St.
Mar. 6 9:00-12:00 American Cultural Center - Morning Seminar, 19 Keren Hayesod.

HAIFA
Mar. 18 9:00-3:30 AACI, 8 Wedgwood St.

An IRS representative will see taxpayers on a first come, first served basis.

For further information, please contact:
AACI Jerusalem 02-617151 • U.S. Consulate General 02-253288
American Cultural Center 02-255755 • U.S. Embassy, Tel Aviv 03-5197368
AACI Haifa 04-387140

WANTED: "GAME" DEVELOPERS

GT Interactive, the international publishers of DOOM and Hexen, is looking for proven Game Developers to provide new titles for international publication.

If you are part of a team of "Bit Twiddlers" that love to make the machine sing, GT wants to talk to you.

GT's Vice President of Product Development will be in Israel during the first two weeks of March for meetings.

Send your name, where GT can contact you, and your background information including your games, products or development products to: **E-Mail: skosoy@ginteractive.com**
Fax: 1-212-726-6590

THIRD IN A SERIES

QUESTIONS FOR COMMSTOCK

Q. "I'm looking for ways to benefit from the rising markets in the Far East, but I really don't know how to decide which companies to invest in. I'm also nervous about losing money. What do you recommend?" *A.M.G. from Ra'anana*

A. The Asian capital markets are indeed attracting attention lately. In fact, their investment appeal was the subject of a recent cover story in *Barron's*. If you've decided to invest in the Far East but aren't familiar with the smaller details of the market, it's wise to buy specialized mutual funds. Dozens of these funds are available. If you're afraid of losing money, you can even choose a fund that guarantees the return of your principal, although in this case, your money must be invested for several years.

Of course, the key to successful investing is consulting with an experienced broker who can advise you about the various opportunities that are available.

Do you need answers about investing? Mail or fax your questions, along with your name, address and phone number, to SUCCESSFUL INVESTING c/o CommStock Trading, POB 7777, Jerusalem, Fax: 02-244876. If your question is used in this column (without your name, of course), you will receive a gift from CommStock!

COMMSTOCK
EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO SUCCEED

CommStock Trading Ltd. (Est. 1981)
Futures, Options, and Stock Brokers
Jerusalem: City Tower, 34 Ben Yehuda St.
Tel. 02-244963; Fax: 02-244876
Ramat Gan: Beit Silver, 7 Abba Hillel St.
Tel. 03-575-8826/27; Fax: 03-575-6990

Home-quote terminals and beepers available.

Reading between the lines... you have time for trading action until 11 PM.

ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK

JOIN OUR TELEBANK
DIAL 03-5128111 FROM 8 AM TO 11 PM.

Walk into Wall Street

CLARK & ADDISON
SECURITIES LTD.

U.S. STOCK AND COMMODITY BROKERS
Tel: 02-247-765 Fax 02-235-759 • 25 Keren Hayesod St., Jerusalem

DISCOUNT COMMISSIONS

CFC

EUROBONDS, GOVERNMENT BONDS, BRADY BONDS...

If you are INTERESTED in INVESTING in BONDS then contact CERES FINANCIAL CONCEPTS

For further information, telephone Nigel Kersh on 03-6135743

The twin Towers, 35 Jabotinsky Street, Ramat Gan

CFC - a little taste of Switzerland in Israel

Switzerland United States China Indonesia Bangladesh Israel

Market down on 'weak' Teva

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET

ROBERT DANIEL



Two-Sided index Maof Index

THE TASE rose for the week as the Bank of Israel announced it would leave interest rates unchanged and as Bezeq reported rising profits.

Yesterday, share prices fell after Teva Pharmaceuticals Ltd. said fourth-quarter profit before a one-time write-off rose 25 percent, in line with expectations.

Teva's results had initially been reported to the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange without an explanation of the one-time charge, said Zvi Hoffman, manager of mutual funds at Tel Aviv investment firm Meltav Ltd. As a result, he said, "Teva's announcement was seen worse than expected."

The TASE halted trading in Teva's shares twice, once because of the earnings announcement (a standard exchange procedure) and once because of the lack of clarity regarding the figures.

Teva, the most active share on the exchange yesterday, closed down 0.5 percent, a "weakness" which could have resulted from confusion over the trading halt, said Hoffman. Teva's American Depository Receipts rose 1/4 to 4 3/4 in New York in early trading.

Yesterday, the Maof Index fell 0.32% to 219.63. The Two-Sided index fell 0.17% to 211.03.

For the week, the Maof Index rose 1.3% and the Mishtanin Index rose 1.2%.

Of 990 issues trading across the exchange yesterday, seven shares rose for every five that fell. Some NIS 90.9 million worth of shares

traded, NIS 12.5m. above Wednesday's level and about NIS 10m. above this week's trading level.

"The week was positive," said Hoffman. "We saw earnings reports that were good, including Bezeq."

Next week he expects rising prices in Tel Aviv. "If there are no surprises in New York, if Wall Street will fall sharply, that will influence Tel Aviv."

Company earnings reports next week are expected to show rising profits, said Hoffman.

He added that Bank of Israel's decision on Monday to leave the rate at which it lends to the banks unchanged at 14 percent contributed to gaining share prices in the week.

"The rate decision was expected, but it strengthened the idea that there might be a rate cut at the future," he said.

Inflation is expected to rise at a monthly rate of 0.5% in February and March, Hoffman added, a rate which would be seen as reasonable. "If it does, the central bank 'could lower interest rates.'"

Bezeq rose 3.2% from last Thursday, as the phone company reported fourth-quarter net income rose 32% due to an increase in the number of phone lines installed in the country. Yesterday, Bezeq shares retraced 1%.

Other declining shares on the Maof Index included investment companies IDB Holding Corp., which fell 1.75% and IDB Development Corp., which fell 1.5%.

Key Representative Rates

Table with 2 columns: Currency, Rate. US dollar ... NIS 3.1010 +0.03%, Sterling ... NIS 4.7507 -0.43%, Mark ... NIS 2.1123 -0.77%

NEW YORK STOCK MARKETS

New York market indexes

Table with 3 columns: Index Name, Last, Change. DJ Industrials 9486.36 +39.82, NYSE Composite 2918.53 +20.44

NYSE STOCKS

Unchanged Advance Decline

Table with 2 columns: Shares, Advances, Declines. Shares 1730, Advances 858, Declines 1298

Other stock market indexes

Table with 3 columns: Index Name, Last, Change. FTSE 100 3727.9 -10.6, Nikkei 14209.5 -108.4

Israeli stocks in NY

NYSE / AMEX

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Last, Change. Anis 10.00 +0.10, Amgal 10.00 +0.10

OTC

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Last, Change. Amgal 10.00 +0.10, Anis 10.00 +0.10

OTC

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Last, Change. Amgal 10.00 +0.10, Anis 10.00 +0.10

OTC

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Last, Change. Amgal 10.00 +0.10, Anis 10.00 +0.10

OTC

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Last, Change. Amgal 10.00 +0.10, Anis 10.00 +0.10

OTC

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Last, Change. Amgal 10.00 +0.10, Anis 10.00 +0.10

OTC

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Last, Change. Amgal 10.00 +0.10, Anis 10.00 +0.10

OTC

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Last, Change. Amgal 10.00 +0.10, Anis 10.00 +0.10

OTC

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Last, Change. Amgal 10.00 +0.10, Anis 10.00 +0.10

OTC

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Last, Change. Amgal 10.00 +0.10, Anis 10.00 +0.10

OTC

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Last, Change. Amgal 10.00 +0.10, Anis 10.00 +0.10

OTC

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Last, Change. Amgal 10.00 +0.10, Anis 10.00 +0.10

OTC

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Last, Change. Amgal 10.00 +0.10, Anis 10.00 +0.10

OTC

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Last, Change. Amgal 10.00 +0.10, Anis 10.00 +0.10

OTC

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Last, Change. Amgal 10.00 +0.10, Anis 10.00 +0.10

OTC

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Last, Change. Amgal 10.00 +0.10, Anis 10.00 +0.10

OTC

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Last, Change. Amgal 10.00 +0.10, Anis 10.00 +0.10

OTC

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Last, Change. Amgal 10.00 +0.10, Anis 10.00 +0.10

OTC

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Last, Change. Amgal 10.00 +0.10, Anis 10.00 +0.10

OTC

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Last, Change. Amgal 10.00 +0.10, Anis 10.00 +0.10

OTC

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Last, Change. Amgal 10.00 +0.10, Anis 10.00 +0.10

OTC

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Last, Change. Amgal 10.00 +0.10, Anis 10.00 +0.10

OTC

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Last, Change. Amgal 10.00 +0.10, Anis 10.00 +0.10

OTC

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Last, Change. Amgal 10.00 +0.10, Anis 10.00 +0.10

OTC

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Last, Change. Amgal 10.00 +0.10, Anis 10.00 +0.10

OTC

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Last, Change. Amgal 10.00 +0.10, Anis 10.00 +0.10

OTC

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Last, Change. Amgal 10.00 +0.10, Anis 10.00 +0.10

OTC

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Last, Change. Amgal 10.00 +0.10, Anis 10.00 +0.10

OTC

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Last, Change. Amgal 10.00 +0.10, Anis 10.00 +0.10

OTC

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Last, Change. Amgal 10.00 +0.10, Anis 10.00 +0.10

OTC

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Last, Change. Amgal 10.00 +0.10, Anis 10.00 +0.10

TEL AVIV STOCKS

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading

INFLATION MARKETS

Dollar crosses rates (US)

Table with 3 columns: Currency, Last, Change. Pound 1.474 +0.004, D-mark 1.474 +0.004

Libor rates

Table with 3 columns: Rate, Last, Change. Dollar 3 months 5.125 +0.000, Dollar 6 months 5.125 +0.000

Foreign financial data courtesy of CommStock Trading Ltd.

Futures, Options, Stocks, Bonds and Mutual Funds

34 Ben Yehuda St, Jerusalem, Tel. 02-24963, 03-575826 Fax. 02-244876

US commodities

Table with 3 columns: Commodity, Last, Change. Cocoa (May) 1289 +0.25, Sugar (11) 50.15 +0.28

London commodities

Table with 3 columns: Commodity, Last, Change. Cocoa (May) 1289 +0.25, Sugar (11) 50.15 +0.28

Spot market metals (US)

Table with 3 columns: Metal, Last, Change. Gold spot 402.5 +0.6, Silver spot 5.84 +0.08

New York metal fixes

Table with 3 columns: Metal, Last, Change. Gold (May) 402.5 +0.6, Silver (May) 5.84 +0.08

London metal fixes

Table with 3 columns: Metal, Last, Change. Gold (May) 402.5 +0.6, Silver (May) 5.84 +0.08

INTERNATIONAL STOCK PRICES

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Alfa 33.25 -0.125, Alfa 33.25 -0.125

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Alfa 33.25 -0.125, Alfa 33.25 -0.125

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Alfa 33.25 -0.125, Alfa 33.25 -0.125

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Alfa 33.25 -0.125, Alfa 33.25 -0.125

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Alfa 33.25 -0.125, Alfa 33.25 -0.125

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Alfa 33.25 -0.125, Alfa 33.25 -0.125

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Alfa 33.25 -0.125, Alfa 33.25 -0.125

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Alfa 33.25 -0.125, Alfa 33.25 -0.125

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Alfa 33.25 -0.125, Alfa 33.25 -0.125

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Alfa 33.25 -0.125, Alfa 33.25 -0.125

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Alfa 33.25 -0.125, Alfa 33.25 -0.125

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Alfa 33.25 -0.125, Alfa 33.25 -0.125

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Alfa 33.25 -0.125, Alfa 33.25 -0.125

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Alfa 33.25 -0.125, Alfa 33.25 -0.125

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Alfa 33.25 -0.125, Alfa 33.25 -0.125

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Alfa 33.25 -0.125, Alfa 33.25 -0.125

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Alfa 33.25 -0.125, Alfa 33.25 -0.125

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Alfa 33.25 -0.125, Alfa 33.25 -0.125

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Alfa 33.25 -0.125, Alfa 33.25 -0.125

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Alfa 33.25 -0.125, Alfa 33.25 -0.125

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Alfa 33.25 -0.125, Alfa 33.25 -0.125

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Alfa 33.25 -0.125, Alfa 33.25 -0.125

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Alfa 33.25 -0.125, Alfa 33.25 -0.125

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Alfa 33.25 -0.125, Alfa 33.25 -0.125

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Alfa 33.25 -0.125, Alfa 33.25 -0.125

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Alfa 33.25 -0.125, Alfa 33.25 -0.125

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Alfa 33.25 -0.125, Alfa 33.25 -0.125

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Alfa 33.25 -0.125, Alfa 33.25 -0.125

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Alfa 33.25 -0.125, Alfa 33.25 -0.125

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Alfa 33.25 -0.125, Alfa 33.25 -0.125

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Alfa 33.25 -0.125, Alfa 33.25 -0.125

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Alfa 33.25 -0.125, Alfa 33.25 -0.125

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Alfa 33.25 -0.125, Alfa 33.25 -0.125

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Alfa 33.25 -0.125, Alfa 33.25 -0.125

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Alfa 33.25 -0.125, Alfa 33.25 -0.125

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Alfa 33.25 -0.125, Alfa 33.25 -0.125

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Alfa 33.25 -0.125, Alfa 33.25 -0.125

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Alfa 33.25 -0.125, Alfa 33.25 -0.125

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Alfa 33.25 -0.125, Alfa 33.25 -0.125

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Alfa 33.25 -0.125, Alfa 33.25 -0.125

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Alfa 33.25 -0.125, Alfa 33.25 -0.125

Table with 3 columns: Stock Name, Price, Change. Alfa 33.25 -0.125, Alfa 33.25 -0.125

FTSE bounces back

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

LONDON (Reuters)

The FTSE 100 closed down but above the day's lows after taking



JAMBO - The Kenyan team celebrates after their incredible upset win over West Indies yesterday.

National hoopsters down Byelorussia

THE national team secured an impressive victory over Byelorussia, as all 10 players scored in a 95-73 win at Hadar Yossef last night. The victory boosts Israel's record to 3-2, while Byelorussia falls to 3-2. The win was a crucial morale booster for the Israelis, who lost their last home game to Bosnia and needed a victory to realistically stay in the hunt to advance. Byelorussia, coming off a shocking victory over Greece in Athens, opened the game strongly, using a ferocious fast pace to take a 9-4 lead four minutes into the game. But Israel failed to wilt on its own home court this time around and responded with a 19-0 run in the next six minutes to build up a 23-9 advantage. Although Israel never relinquished the lead after that, Byelorussia immediately attempted to get back into the game by

taking advantage of the absence from the court of Nadya Hensfeld (third foul) and Ofer Fleisher (out temporarily with an eye injury) to cut the margin to 29-25 with five minutes to go in the half. But Tomer Steinhauer rose to the occasion to score eight consecutive points and pull down three offensive rebounds to close out the half with a 19-4 run and give the Israelis a comfortable 44-33 lead at the half. Israel took no chances after the break, as Adi Gordon - celebrating his return to national team participation - opened the second half with four quick points to up the advantage to 48-34. Another returnee to the national team, Papi Turgeeman, contributed with a strong defensive effort and caused three key turnovers. Another encouraging sign was the play of the younger members

of the squad, who took over from the veterans and kept up the pressure on Byelorussia by building up a lead that was at one point as high as 92-62. For Israel, Steinhauer had 19 points on 75 percent shooting from the field, Moti Daniel had 18, Doron Jamchev 16, and Gordon 11. Byelorussia was led by star forward Valery Dalynaco, who was held scoreless until midway through the first half and finished with 17. Dmitri Kazmin chipped in with 16. In other Group A results, Bosnia defeated Slovakia 84-74 and Greece beat Georgia 100-66. The European National Championships now take a break until October.

Group A Standings Table with columns for Rank, W, L, Pts

Kenya bowls Windies out for 93 in massive upset win

Hudson, Cullinan lift South Africa over Pakistan

PUNE, India (Reuters) - Rank outsiders Kenya thrashed twice former champions West Indies by 73 runs yesterday in the biggest upset in World Cup cricket history. The Kenyans shot West Indies out for a miserly 93 in 35.2 overs - their lowest Cup total - in an astonishing performance that had the 45,000-strong crowd roaring with delight. The result opened up the possibility of a three-way scramble between West Indies, Kenya and Zimbabwe for the fourth and last qualifying place in Group A to go through to the quarter-finals. Captain Maurice Odumbe was Kenya's hero, taking three wickets with his off-spinners and also producing a slick piece of fielding to run out Curtly Ambrose late in the innings. "This is like a dream come true," said Odumbe, almost breathless after doing a lap of honor around the Nehru stadium with his team. "We came to the World Cup to prove that we could play and I think that we did prove that today. It's like having won the World Cup." Asked whether Kenya should declare a national holiday on Friday to celebrate, Odumbe beamed. "Not tomorrow but on my birthday."

For winning this important match. "I'm very, very disappointed that we did not play as we should have and that is all I have to say." A West Indian win had looked a formality after they won the toss, put Kenya in, and bowled them out for 166, with extras of 35 being the highest individual figure on the scorecard. But then West Indies opens Sherwin Campbell and captain Richie Richardson were bowled by pacemen Martin Sujji and Rajab Ali with only 22 on the board. The crowd had come to see world record breaker Brian Lara but he fared no better, edging a catch to wicketkeeper Tariq Iqbal off Ali for eight. Odumbe saw that dismissal as the key to his team's victory. "The turning point came when we got Brian Lara," he said. "It has been said repeatedly that you get Lara and the West Indies are shaky. From that point we started putting on the pressure."

A sense of unease began creeping into the West Indian batting when Keith Arthurton was run out one run later to make the score 35 for four. That unease became near visible panic when Kenya turned to spin and the ball turned sharply. Odumbe accounted for Shivnarine Chanderpaul, Jimmy Adams and Roger Harper and at 78 for seven

will finish top of the group, forcing Pakistan to play their quarter-final in India next week - their first trip across the border in nine years. Hudson, who lived precariously as he hit 33 off 26 balls, and opening partner Gary Kirsten raced to 50 at the end of the seventh over before Hudson was bowled by a fiery Waqar Younis. Younis trapped Brian McMillan lbw in his next over for just one but Kirsten and Cullinan were still able to keep up the momentum against the spinners. Kirsten was bowled by off-spinner Saqlain Mushtaq on 44 and Cullinan eventually became another Younis victim, but by that stage South Africa were coasting to victory, reaching 200 with 15 overs to go. Cronje, who had made a vital contribution earlier with his bowling, then steered the team home.

Cricket World Cup Group A Standings Table

Cricket World Cup Group B Standings Table

Cricket World Cup Group C Standings Table

Cricket World Cup Group D Standings Table

Match Statistics: Kenya vs West Indies

Match Statistics: South Africa vs Pakistan



Advertisement for 'ON TUESDAY - SPORTS DAY IN THE JERUSALEM POST' featuring Wayne Gretzky's new home and other sports news.

Betar faces crucial match tomorrow

Hapoel Beersheba hosts Betar Jerusalem in the featured match of weekend soccer action, as National League leader Maccabi Tel Aviv and third-place Maccabi Haifa look to have easy fixtures against lowly opposition. Betar are smarting after an IFA disciplinary committee again slapped a punishment on the club for their fans' unruly behavior. This time the sentence is a home match next week against Maccabi Herzliya to be played without a crowd and an NIS 15,000 fine, after the club already was punished with a radius home game, which the Jerusalemites played in Herzliya against Maccabi Jaffa. The estimated loss of income will be around NIS 300,000. Betar will therefore want to make every effort to ensure maximum points from the fixture in Beersheba tomorrow. The Beershebas, for their part, will not want to sink even further into trouble at the bottom, as they lurk perilously close to the lower reaches of the league. Maccabi Tel Aviv's away fixture at Hapoel Kfar Sava should not present too many problems for the visitors, despite missing Itzik Zohar - who is suspended for a month following disciplinary action also meted out by the IFA court on Wednesday night. Kfar Sava's goalkeeper Eran

UConn rallies to beat Rutgers

STORRS, Conn. (AP) - Connecticut's Ray Allen answered his frustrations with the best offensive performance of his career. The No. 4 Huskies still have some questions as the regular season winds down. Allen came alive from 3-point range late in the first half to help his team rally from a 15-point deficit and eventually overcome Rutgers 78-66 Wednesday night. UConn coach Jim Calhoun praised Allen's performance and credited him with turning around the game. But the fact that the Huskies let themselves fall behind 30-15 to Rutgers in their own building had him concerned. "We were taken out of the game by a Rutgers team that got on us early and made shots," he said. "We didn't play very focused or with defensive intensity. We didn't start playing until there were 10 minutes to go."

Allen, a national player of the year candidate who could leave for the NBA at the end of his junior season, was brilliant in UConn's last home game, traditionally set aside as Senior Night. Should Allen decide to depart along with his graduating teammates, he certainly led the fans something to remember him by. He had a career-high 39 points and made a career-best nine 3-pointers. The sellout crowd of 8,241 was on its feet chanting "One more year!" well before his final 3-pointer. The Huskies, who had already secured the No. 1 seed for the Big East tournament, finished unbeaten in 15 games at home. They wrap up the regular season

Table with Eastern Conference and Western Conference standings, including columns for Rank, W, L, Pct, GB

O'Neal powers Magic over Heat

ORLANDO (AP) - Shaquille O'Neal won another personal matchup with Alonzo Mourning and the Orlando Magic cooled off the Miami Heat with a 116-112 victory. O'Neal had 31 points and 14 rebounds to Mourning's 18 points and 10 boards Wednesday night as the Atlantic Division leaders improved to 29-0 at home and dealt Miami its first loss since coach Pat Riley remade the Heat with three trades last week. Anfernee Hardaway just missed a triple-double with 27 points, 10 assists and nine rebounds. Dennis Scott added 25 points for Orlando, which also beat Miami in another Shaq-Zo showdown on February 17. Tim Hardaway, one of the five players the Heat obtained before last Thursday night's trade deadline, led Miami with 22 points and 13 assists. Rex Chapman had 16 points and Walt Williams 14 points.

Kings 90, Knicks 85 Sarunas Marciulionis made two 3-pointers in the final 1:41, including the go-ahead score, and host Sacramento snapped an 11-game losing streak by beating New York. Marciulionis was activated from the injured list earlier in the day after missing 14 games following arthroscopic knee surgery. Mitch Richmond's 22 points led the Kings, who out-rebounded the Knicks 64-56. Billy Owens added 16 points and 18 rebounds while Olden Polynice had 17 rebounds and 14 points, all in the second half. Patrick Ewing had 31 points to lead the Knicks, who lost their season-high fourth straight. Ewing had missed the previous three games with a sprained left ankle.

Table with Eastern Conference and Western Conference standings, including columns for Rank, W, L, Pct, GB

Bruins hand Rangers third straight home loss

NEW YORK (AP) - Ray Bourque and Rick Tocchet scored goals 2:35 apart in the second period and the Boston Bruins beat New York 3-1, handing the Rangers their third straight loss at home following a club record-tying 24-game unbeaten streak. Steve Heinze also scored for Boston with 4:31 remaining in the third period Wednesday night as the Rangers dropped their third straight at home for the first time since last April. The Rangers, playing without leading scorer Mark Messier, got their only goal from defenseman Bruce Driver as they maintained a four-point lead over Florida for

the top spot in the Eastern Conference. Messier injured his shoulder in Tuesday night's 5-3 loss to Washington. His status is day to day. The Bruins, who were without defenseman Scott Niedermayer, were held scoreless in the first period. The Bruins' defense was solid, allowing only one goal in the first period. The Bruins' offense was more active in the second and third periods, scoring three goals each.

Table with Eastern Conference and Western Conference standings, including columns for Rank, W, L, Pct, GB

Erlich advances to satellite semis

EYAL Erlich subdued Raviv Weidenfeld in the quarter-finals of the Club Hotel Ellat satellite in Ashkelon yesterday. Erlich, seeded third and ranked 265 in the world, put an end to qualifier Weidenfeld's (679) string of victories which included Davis Cup player Noam Behr (293) in the second round. Erlich beat Weidenfeld 6-4, 6-2 and will play second seed Ignacio Trujillo (225) today at 10.30am. The other semi matches Lior Mor and Chiner's Bing Pan after Mor beat South African Kevin Ullyett 6-4, 6-2 and Pan stopped Bernd Christandl from Austria 6-2, 6-2. Tomorrow's final begins at 10am. Meanwhile, politics were probably behind Algeria pulling its women players out of the Federation Cup to be played at Ramat Hasharon from March 25 and including 25 nations in the biggest tournament ever to be hosted in Israel.

LOCAL SCENE HEATHER CHAIT Kfar Saba on the run Shaping up for summer? Enter tomorrow's Kfar Saba Race which offers distances of 10km or 2km. Running the longer race will be top athletes like Dov Kremer and Amir Ne'eman while the shorter race is for everyone, family, kids, dogs and all. Entertainment will be laid on for those on the sidelines. Registration begins at 8am and the 10km race sets off at 10.30am. Details: 09 7649313. Follow the leader Dus Suliman lost both her way and her lead in the 5km cross-country race during last weekend's Israel Championships. Suliman, from Nazareth, was dutifully following the leading runner which took a wrong turn. After 100m, Suliman realized the error, retraced her steps and ended in this place. The winner was Nili Abramsky (17:07 mins). Not just sport The rivalry between Nir and Ran

Chantal and their yachting rivals Eli Zuckerman and Sa'ar Behr reached legal levels this week when the brothers appealed to the Sports Federation's disciplinary committee against Zuckerman/Behr's continuing to vie for the one Olympic ticket. Although the Chantals have a clear lead, the other pair passed the Olympic criterion in Canada last year which had ended on their own steam. The court rejected the Chantals' plea that they had been the official Israeli delegation to Canada, citing 'sporting competition' as the reason why both couples should meanwhile continue in the quest. Olympic disputes More rivalry in the swimming pool where Eran Gerumi is making his own bid for the Olympic ticket, at the possible expense of Eyal Orbach or Dan Kutler. If Gerumi, who ended his retirement from swimming three months ago, beats either swimmer by three-tenths of a second in an international meet in April in Vienna, he's likely to be included in the relay team - unless he's also taken to court on immoral grounds!

Amir's lawyers deny discord

RAINE MARCUS

THE trial Yigal Amir will resume Sunday, but his attorneys, Gabi Shahar and Shmuel Fleishman, yesterday vehemently denied radio reports they are at odds over their line of defense.

"Each of us has different areas of responsibility and is dealing with different parts of the defense," said Fleishman, who will apparently concentrate on whether the murder was premeditated or not.

Shahar did not rule out the possibility that Amir was provoked into killing Yitzhak Rabin on November 4 by Avishai Raviv, the head of Eyal, an extreme right-wing organization, who was later alleged to be a GSS informer. Shahar said several people heard Raviv provoke Amir several times, urging him to carry out the murder, and they may be called as defense witnesses. But other sources said the Raviv theory is "total nonsense."

"The case is definitely not black and white, as it may appear

on the surface," Shahar said. "There is all sorts of information which has come to our attention, and we may use anything we consider appropriate."

Shahar has still not decided if he will use Amir's previous statements that he did not intend to murder Rabin, but merely paralyze him as a line of defense.

"All options are open," he said, "including the one of diminished responsibility." Following several meetings between psychiatrists and Amir, psychiatric evaluations are currently being prepared, but will probably not be ready by Sunday. On Wednesday, Fleishman, Shahar and lawyer Jonathan Ray Goldberg met with Amir, who objects to any arguments claiming that he was in any way insane or suffering from diminished responsibility when he shot Rabin.

However sources said that if the psychiatrists' report shows that Amir was mentally disturbed, the defense will use this.

Poor turnout for blood probe

JUDY SIEGEL

A few weeks after Ethiopian immigrants demonstrated against Magen David Adom's policy of destroying their blood donations, the Navon Commission investigating the matter held its first public hearing to a nearly empty auditorium yesterday.

No Ethiopian immigrants turned up, and only two or three spectators took seats along with half a dozen journalists and organizers.

"We can't explain why they didn't come. They were invited, and notice of the first meeting appeared in the press," said Yisrael Cohen, the media adviser to the committee, which was appointed by Prime Minister Shimon Peres after the uproar over MDA's policy to avoid using the blood donated by Ethiopian immigrants, who are at relatively high risk for HIV and other diseases.

The committee is chaired by former president Yitzhak Navon,

and includes two Ethiopian immigrants - social worker Natmar Hillel and Ethiopian Immigrant Association chairman Adiso Massala. Other members are Prof. Eliezer Rachmilevich, Yehzekel Zakai, Dr. Eliahu Winograd, and Haim Nagan.

The session heard surveys of the history of the Jews in Ethiopia from researchers Dr. Shoshana Ben-Dor and Dr. Shalva Weill; recollections of the community's aliya and a discussion of its absorption here by Absorption Minister Yair Tzaban.

He said neither he nor Health Minister Ephraim Sneh knew that MDA was not using blood donations from Ethiopian Jews. "If we had known, we would have taken action," he said. The matter is not just a medical one, but has many other implications, Tzaban added.

He said it is forbidden to establish a connection between a medi-



Former president Yitzhak Navon begins hearing testimony yesterday at the first public hearing on the handling of blood donations from Ethiopian immigrants. Next to him is another member of the inquiry panel, social worker Natmar Hillel. (Brian Hender)

cal or social pathology and a certain ethnic community. "Any financial price should have been spent to find ways to use the blood of Ethiopian immigrants, and there should not have been a policy based on not telling the truth, because many people were partner to this 'secret.'"

Tzaban noted that the violent reactions of some demonstrators showed their anger not only over the blood donation affair but also over the rabbinical establishment's failure to recognize them fully as Jews. Only a small minority of protesters were violent, he said.

WEATHER

Jerusalem	9-11
Tel Aviv	13-18
Haifa	12-17
Beersheva	13-19
Beer Sheva	13-19
Dead Sea	15-21
Jerusalem	12-17
Tiberias	13-17
Arad	12-16
Samarina	11-13
Eilat	17-22

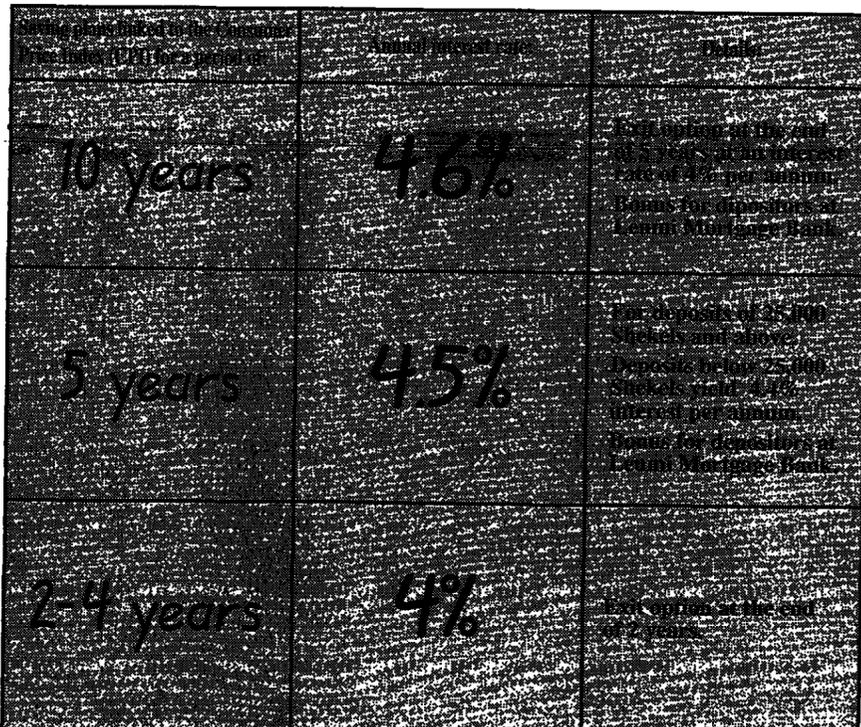
Forecast: Significant drop in temperatures. Partly cloudy. Possibility of local showers. Shabbat: Further drop in temperatures. Partly cloudy. Local showers in the north and center.

Forecast: Significant drop in temperatures. Partly cloudy. Possibility of local showers. Shabbat: Further drop in temperatures. Partly cloudy. Local showers in the north and center.

AROUND THE WORLD

Region	Low	High	Cloud
North America	65-75	75-85	Partly cloudy
South America	60-70	70-80	Partly cloudy
Europe	55-65	65-75	Partly cloudy
Asia	60-70	70-80	Partly cloudy
Africa	65-75	75-85	Partly cloudy
Australia	60-70	70-80	Partly cloudy
Oceania	65-75	75-85	Partly cloudy
Antarctica	50-60	60-70	Partly cloudy

Regardless of the duration of the savings plan you choose ...



Great interest rates are already included.

Your money linked to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) from the day of deposit until the day of redemption, without the loss of any CPI. Details at all Bank Leumi Branches.

bank leumi בנק לאומי

Banks open today; 5-day week delayed

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

THE commercial banks will be open today, following Histadrut Chairman Amir Peretz's decision to delay the move to a five-day work week. Zion Shema, bank workers union leader, said the change, which was supposed to start today, would be delayed by six to eight weeks.

The Histadrut said the delay is due to the bank workers committee failure to agree on the same day to keep banks closed.

All of the banks plan to close Friday except for Bank Leumi, which is insisting on Sunday. Peretz said the delay is also due to Supervisor of Banks Ze'ev Abeles's and Monopolies Supervisor Yoram Turbovitz's request to keep banks open until they examine the implications of the closure on the economy.

Israel Radio reported yesterday that the Bank Leumi works committee was threatening to close the bank on Sunday, as part of a unilateral move to a five-day week. There was no response from management.

Gas and heating fuel prices go up

FUEL prices were increased as of midnight last night, due to regional price rises and changes in the exchange rate, the Energy Ministry said. The price of 96 octane gas was increased by 1.5 percent, to NIS 2.70 a liter from NIS 2.66. Unleaded fuel went up

1.16% to NIS 2.61 a liter from NIS 2.58. Heating fuel went up 12.8%, while transportation fuel prices increased by 12.2%. Light industrial fuel went up 6.5%; heavy industrial and Electric Corporation fuel went up 3.9%. (Iim)

IAI signs satellite deal with US firm

STEVE RODAN

ISRAEL Aircraft Industry has formed a joint venture with a US firm with the aim of operating a commercial imagery satellite by the end of 1997, executives said yesterday.

The move, following two years of negotiations, comes after the Defense Ministry set guidelines for IAI to enter the commercial imagery market.

IAI's partner is Core Software Technology of Pasadena, California, the operator of North American ImageNet. The company provides information services and products, including satellite and aerial imagery, computer and demographic data.

IAI executives, stressing they will not finance the program on their own, said both they and Core will now seek partners to manufacture and launch a constellation of high-resolution remote sensing satellites.

They said the project requires an investment of between \$60 million and \$80m.

"IAI has been involved in space projects for many years and is continually looking for new opportunities to expand its market," said Shmuel Alkon, corporate vice president and general manager of IAI's Electronic Group. "We are looking for other companies to invest, and we might even issue a stock to raise money."

IAI sources said the proposal for a partnership with Core was settled last year. Under the arrangement, IAI would operate the satellite and Core would distribute the imagery through its worldwide computer network.

The civilian uses for the imaging would be in the fields of mapping, ecology, agriculture and fishing.

But Israeli defense officials opposed the joint venture. Some of them doubted that IAI, a government company, would profit by entering the commercial imagery market.

ERECTION RESTORED IN ONE DAY!

Uncertain erection? Premature ejaculation? Bent organ? Don't despair! Blood supply to sexual organ restored in one day!

"OLSHANITSKI SYSTEM"
Tel Aviv • Jerusalem • Paris • Bangkok
Tel. 03-7512890/1, 155 Jabotinski St., Ramat Gan

REGULAR TOURS, HOTELS, PACKAGE DEALS

SEASON'S SPECIAL TRAVEL EXPERTS

To JORDAN and EGYPT

Exclusive Daily express bus and midnight express to CAIRO and AMMAN

For all information call us: MAZADA TOURS THE MIDDLE EAST TRAVEL & TOURISM CO. LTD.

TEL. AVIV: 141 Ben Gabriol St., Tel. 03-5444454, Fax. 03-5461928
JERUSALEM: 9 Corush St., Tel. 02-2357777, Fax. 02-255454
HAIFA: 1 Kheyat St., Tel. 04-624440, Fax. 04-624464
Recorded information: 03-5653696 (24 hours)

STEINATZKY'S

OFFER

RECOMMENDED GIFT BOOKS

ITALIAN PAINTING: KEITH CHRISTIANSEN. A BEAUTIFUL ALBUM COVERING THE HISTORY OF ITALIAN PAINTING, INCLUDING OVER 300 COLOR ILLUSTRATIONS. SPECIAL OFFER PRICE NIS 149.90 REGULAR PRICE NIS 422.00

THE ART OF PASSOVER: A COLLECTION OF TRADITIONAL PASSOVER OBJECTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD. SPECIAL OFFER PRICE NIS 89.90 REGULAR PRICE NIS 163.00

MICHELIN ATLAS ROUTIER EUROPE: ROAD ATLAS OF EUROPE WITH CITY MAPS AND PLACES OF INTEREST. SPECIAL OFFER PRICE NIS 59.90 REGULAR PRICE NIS 115.00

"BON VOYAGE" WITH MICHELIN: THE WORLD'S MOST FAMOUS MAPS. PRICES: NIS 9.90 NIS 25 NIS 29.90

STEINATZKY MEANS BOOKS

هكذا من الأهل